Recording



The Memories

Legend 1995

Recording the Memories



Excitement fills the air as fans cheer the football team on to a victory. "The march to the 'Dome" provided one of the steps to recording excellent memories during the year.

Portage High School
6450 West U.S. Hwy 6
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Legend 1995 volume 54

Recording the Memories



Seniors Robynne Lute, Dawn Jessler, Nedine Cunningham and Michele Baker perform to the song "Keep on Dancing" as they imitate the ever-popular "Brady Bunch" at Airband. All of the acts performing at Airband imitated musical groups.

Senior Laura Weeks shows her enthusiasm as she cheers for the varsity football team at the RCA Dome. The cheerleaders were very excited to be given the chance to support their team with the help of such a large crowd, decked out in red and white.





The football team loads the semi for their debut in the Homecoming parade. They were fired up for victory.



Riding on the sophomore float, Chief Izzy DeJesus ties the enemy Raider, Steve Kinder, to the post as classmates Chrissy Cunningham and Nathan Mundt gaze at the supportive crowd.

Every day in life produces many memories. However, some are short lived, while others can last a lifetime. The memories made during high school years prove to be some of the best. The memories are a record of each person's individual life. Some records are set and can never be broke and those are the records people hold within themselves— records of friendship, successes as well as failure. The records that we cherish and hold most closely to our hearts become memories, and those memories develop a life of their own.



Members of the predominantly female mid-term graduating class converse excitedly after receiving their diploma covers. The diplomas are not handed out to the students until after the graduation ceremonies are complete.

Recording the Memories



Members of the junior class pose for a picture next to their float prior to the Homecoming parade. Despite the fact that the seniors won the float competition, every class enjoyed the construction of their individual floats.



Senior Trina Schaefer rides alongside her step-father, Mr. Richard Stamper, during half-time of the Homecoming game. Trina was one of the Homecoming queen nominees. Her step-sister, senior Sherri Stamper, was voted winter Homecoming queen.



Students enjoyed dancing to certain songs at the dances throughout the year. The "Electric Slide" was one.



Mr. Warren Miller directs the "Choraliers" at one of their various concerts. The members of the Choraliers have to perform an audition before being accepted.

After graduation, some move on to college, others to work, and some to the altar. But the memories never change. Despite whatever changes occur, memories are always still in a special file, recorded in the heart. And the record file can be viewed whenever the holder wishes. All it takes is a step back into the best days of life...the high school years. This book is a key to the file made during the 1994-1995 school year. Use this book as a key to unlock those memories today...tomorrow... and for many years to come.



Senior Alma Marlin graces the stage during the Variety Show with her beautiful voice. Alma has been known throughout her high school years for her singing of Gospel music.

Off the Record

Senior Sean Connors and junior Nick Wellman meditate after the Hobart game. The coaches always met with the team to reflect upon the team's goals.





Seven graduating seniors are presented flowers by Assistant Principal Mr. John Broome. Of 74 January graduates, 53 are female.

Senior Tamra Kay dances with sophomore Tom Kelly at the winter homecoming dance. The crowd at the dance exceeded 1,600 people.



People coming, people going, setting records with what they did; that's what school life was all about. An outstanding number of records were set this year. Homecoming spirit filled the air as the football fans set personal records with their tremendous support. Records of friendship were set during the Jr. Miss and Outstanding Young Man competitions.

"The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" and "My Fair Lady," both stage productions, as well as Airband and the Variety Show showcased record-breaking talent. Students set unbelievable records in style and class as they strolled into the Expo Center for prom.

The biggest records set were graduations where approximately 575 students ended their high school careers with dignity and record-breaking pride.



Seniors Daymon Johnson, Jason Imes, Dave Skolak, Marc Morales and Mike Bake enjoy the spotlight and the applause after being announced in front of the audience. Dave captured the prestigious award of being the 1994-1995 Outstanding Young Man.

Time Just Slips Away!!

Make the Most of the Time Left

Remember when we were in Kindergarten and summer vacation seemed to take... forever? As Portage High School students grow older, summer vacation seems to slip by much too quickly.

Although a lot of PHS students stay pretty close to school over vacations for various things such as sports, and summer school, the vast majority head for more relaxing places such as the beach or warmer states.

Senior Jen Bauer spent her summer working as a life guard at Lake Street Beach.

"I did get to go to Florida for a two week vacation, it was actually a diving camp. I attended it with Megan Kelly. " Bauer said.

Junior Melissa Fekete spent her entire summer vacation playing softball for her traveling team, The Indiana Outlaws.

"My favorite part of summer was playing at the National Tournament against all the other state teams." Fekete said.

Junior Nick Wellman said, "The best part of summer vacation is that there is no school. The weather is really nice and you have a lot of time to spend with your friends."

Sophomore Joe Ring kept himself busy this summer working, as do many other Portage High School students. "I mowed lawns all summer but I still found time to hang out with my friends and play in my pool." Ring said.

Junior Kevin DeVries said, "Not having to go to school is the best part of summer vacation. I didn't get to go anywhere because I spent a lot of my free time working on Jenn's farm baling hay."

Junior Erika Murrow said, "I worked all summer at the cash register of the West Beach concession stand. I also spent a lot of my time playing basketball. I love summer because it gives me a lot of time to spend with my friends and my boyfriend."

Senior Sarah Wadle said, "Heather Waugh and I walked in a race called the 'Bix' in Davenport, Iowa during summer vacation."

Summer is great because it gives everyone a time to do what they like to. As PHS students grow older the summer days get shorter and the time just seems to slip right on by.

...Jenn Buergler





Senior Aaron Munoz stands at the edge of RoyalGorge in Arizona. He also visited the Smokey Mountains in North Carolina during his summer vacation, putting over 3000 miles on the family Corvette. Many students chose to visit interesting geographical areas during break.



Seniors Amy James and Heather Westerkamp spent some of their summer vacation at "Camp Chile" a special conference for student council members. Many clubs choose to participate in state-wide conventions.

Seniors Josie Werhowatz and Darcie Newberry spent their summer vacation at Walt Disney Land in California. Mr. Disney makes a lot of money off of students traveling to warmer states.







Members of the pom pon squad participated in a camp this summer to improve their skills. The squad had to dress up for funky hair day.

Sophomore Amity McKiddy and her friends Amanda Hedrick and Melissa Pietrzyzak from Hammond High School attended the Vegas National Dance Competition. All three attended on scholarships.

Friendly Competition

Friend vs. Friend

In June, 53 girls participated in the Junior Miss program. Girls were given the opportunity to compete for scholarships based on scholastic achievement, judges' interview, creative and performing arts, fitness, and presence and composure.

Laura Weeks, senior, said, "I couldn't wait for my turn to participate in the Junior Miss program. I had always gone to the past competitions and I've always looked up to the girls who participated in them."

Throughout the week, practices were held after school and on weekends. These practices helped the girls learn the fitness routine to the song "Simply Irresistable" and the presence and composure routine to "Sea of Love".

"Practices were long, but enjoyable. Eating lunch together was a lot of fun and everybody had a blast getting to know each other," said senior Robynne Lute.

Each girl had her favorite part of the competition.

Senior Kara Kitchel enjoyed the fitness routine. "The fitness routine was a lot of fun because we were able to get into the music, have a good time and just be ourselves."

For senior Jaime Jablonski, talent was her favorite part of the competition. "I felt confident when I was performing my talent. Talent was the only part of the competition you were by yourself and really had a chance to show your stuff."

"The whole competition was a lot of fun, but the hardest part was competing against your friends," said senior Tonia Jarvis.

On the final night of competition, senior Anne Crockett was named Portage's Junior Miss.

"I was so excited, but very overwhelmed. So many people wanted pictures and came up to congratulate me," said Anne.

"I will always remember every single girl who participated Everyone supported one another and hoped we each did our best. Mr.Stevens and Mr.Bodnar helped us out and provided us with encouragement," said Robynne.

All the girls enjoyed the program and said they were glad they participated. They made many friendships and had plenty of fun times they will always remember.

Robynne added, "The Junior Miss program was unbelievable!"

....Josie Werhowatz





Senior Jill Hudson performs a routine, while senior Kara Kitchel looks on with encouragement. Even though girls were competing against each other every one remained friendly and supportive of one another.



On the final night of competition, senior Anne Crockett is named Portage's Junior Miss. Anne followed in her sister Leslie's footsteps who was also Portage's Junior Miss.



Senior Tammy Griffey performs an original monologue entitled "Southern Belle". She placed among the finalists.

Seniors Jaime Jablonski and Anne Crockett perform the "Simply Irresistable" fitness routine. Friendly competition brought out their best.





Senior Tonia Jarvis sways gracefully to the song "Sea of Love". Tonia was announced the winner of the presence and composure routine.



Senior Teresa Wilkins happily gets into character as the doll who comes to life in "A Chorus Line". Teresa was a finalist in the Junior Miss competition.

Recording Her Life

"The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie"

Twelve actors presented 'The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie'. The heavy drama was chosen because it has a relatively large cast, according to director William Bodnar. The award-winning play,written by Muriel Spark, was presented on November 19 and 20.

"The play is about a school teacher named Miss Jean Brodie and her superior attitude toward her students, colleagues and the men who love her," Mr. Bodnar explained.

Approximately 90 students auditioned.

"This was the first time I've ever auditioned for a play. I never thought I would make it, yet alone be the main character," said senior Misty Crague.

"I was a little bit nervous when I tried out for the play. There were a lot of girls trying out and I knew that there would be a lot of competition for the parts," said senior Jenny Dranchek who played the part of Jenny.

Senior Annette Orr said, "I wasn't nervous at all. I didn't really care if I got a part or not." Annette played the part of Sister Helena.

"When I auditioned I was just hoping to make callbacks. When I actually got a part I was so happy," said freshman Liz Mirr. Liz was cast as Mary MacGregor.

The love of theatre and acting on stage prompted individuals to audition.

"I like every aspect of theatre. I enjoy doing things backstage, but especially enjoy acting," said senior Holly Foreman.

Junior Shawn Stutler said, "I auditioned because I love being on stage and entertaining people."

The cast rehearsed every day after school to prepare for the performances.

Senior Stephanie Wilson said, "Rehearsals were really helpful. Besides learning my lines, I also learned how to improve my Scottish dialogue."

"Practices were a lot of fun. We were always laughing and telling jokes," said junior Stacey Smolnicky. Stacy was the student director and also performed the part of Monica.

All the time and effort payed off with the successful perfomances.

Junior Alan Washburn said, "Practice makes perfect."

.....Josie Werhowatz







Seniors Misty Crague and Stephanie Wilson worked hard to perfect their characters. Above, Miss Jean Brody and Sandy have a casual talk in the rain.

Sophomore Robb Lukasik enjoys a scene in the spotlight as Mr. Perry. This was Robb's first role on the stage of PHS.



Gordon Lowther played by junior Shawn Stutler, enjoys a moment with Jean Brody, senior Misty Crague.

Jean Brody's girls played by freshman Elizabeth Mirr, junior Stacey Smolnicky, and senior Stephanie Wilson perform a scene with Teddy Lloyd, junior Alan Washburn.





Stage managers play an important role in productions. Sophomore Paul Jarrell and junior Chris Bauknecht assist junior Stacey Smolnicky and senior Misty Crague with their microphones.



Miss MacKay, senior Holly Foreman, addresses Jean Brody's girls. Holly has participated in all aspectsof theatre since her freshman year.

They Finally Did It!!

Getting Pumped Up Really Works!

Homecoming 1994 was better than it had been for quite a long time, basically because the football team came up with a very solid victory over Michigan City Rogers 48-8.

Junior Louie Varner said, "The best part about Homecoming was winning the game. The only thing I would have changed about Homecoming was the fact that it was so crowded."

Homecoming week was Sept. 19 to Sept. 23. Students dressed up to show their class spirit throughout the week. Again the seniors prevailed in the class competition. Almost everyone had a favorite dress up day, although students felt there should be some changes considered for next year.

Senior Josh Slatton said, "They need to change 'Hippy Day' because we have had that now for four years in a row."

Junior Jason Marcotte said, "They should let the entire school vote on the dress up days. We football players basically try to not let all the other activities distract us and just play the game as we would play any other game."

Despite the drizzle, the Homecoming game was still awesome. A big improvement over last year's homecoming monsoon. Sophomore Eric Stanely said, "The best part of the game was when we scored our first touchdown."

Right at the beginning of the game junior Joe Christian took off towards the end zone with nothing but 'score' on his mind. When he accomplished his goal so quickly, both crowds were amazed.

"The best part about homecoming was watching the results of the homecoming court at halftime." Slatton said.

Senior Tonia Jarvis was voted Homecoming Queen by the entire student body. Other nominees were Amy Silverthorn, Jennifer Recktenwall, Dawn Fessler and Trina Shaefer.

Senior Dave Ortiz, the varsity wide receiver was announced the winner of the 'Mr. Football' award. He considered this a great honor.

Homecoming left everyone excited about the big win. Especially the Big Red Football team who had to prepare for the Brickie Bowl Battle the next Friday night.

...Jenn Buergler







Seniors Dawn Fessler, Tonia Jarvis, Jennifer Recktenwall, Trina Schaefer and Amy Silverthorn wait for the announcement of the winner. A big part of homecoming was the announcement of the winners of Queen and Mr. Football at half-time

Senior Football Captians Roger Peele and Dave Ortiz lead the Big Red Football Machine onto the field before th homecoming game. Coaches and fans sensed that senior leadership played a big role in the Indian's success.



Seniors Amy Silverthorn, Erik Taylor and Ann Marie Cruz show their spirit on punk Day. During homecoming spirit week students showed spirit by participating in the dress up days.

Seniors Vanessa Vargas, Michelle Rivera and Denise Lilly dance the night away at the homecoming dance. Many students attended this dance.





Seniors Dave Ortiz and Mike Jaso prepare to take the snap on the freshman float. The homecoming parade showed a lot of homecoming spirit.

Senior Steve Letic puts shaving cream on the head of freshman Irene DeJesus. Every year at the pep-session the winning class president gets to publicly humiliate the losing class president.



Many Warming Hearts

Take Away No Snow Blues!

"Let it Snow" was the theme of the 1994 annual Christmas Dance. Although the night was cold, no snow was to be seen, perhaps the warmth of beating hearts melted the snow away.

Tickets were sold for $12 a couple weeks in advance. The dance was held in the Commons and was sponsored by the Student Council. Seniors Heather Westerkamp and Michelle Baker co-chaired the event.

"I went to the dance because it was going to be my last Christmas dance. I went with my boyfriend Jim McMurry and I had a lot of fun. The dance was organized but a little crowded. I had a lot of fun, because of my boyfriend, he is really funny and he likes to dance," senior Denise Lilly said.

Senior Mike Rake said, "I went to the Christmas dance because the Christmas Spirit was alive in my heart. I can't remember who I went with, it was some broad. I dug the kickin' music, it was so wonderful, I just hope my children get to have an expierence as wonderful as mine."

Sophomore Jenna St. Julien said, "I decided to go to the Christmas dance because last year I went and I had fun. I thought the dance went really well. I liked the dance because it was really fun to get dressed up, it was also very special because I went with my boyfriend, and last year I only went with a friend."

Junior Sonny Armato said, "I wish I could have taken my girlfriend Heather Gish to the dance, but I got sick and had to go the the hospital. She came there instead and brought me some decent food."

Senior Nicole Stout said, "I went to the Christmas dance because I wanted to be with my finance. I thought the whole atmosphere at the dance was great, and my friends and I had a blast."

"I went to the dance because I never went to a formal before and it is my last year. I went to the dance with a good friend, Tony Arreola. I thought the dance went great. The dance was special because it was one time when everyone gets along," senior Michele Sudduth said.

...Jenn Buergler





Junior Kelly Crowe and her date Brian Bileck from Purdue enjoy a slow dance during the Christmas Dance. Many students brought guests from different schools to the dance.



Juniors Jeremy Putman and Becca Miles share a laugh at the Christmas Dance. Many of the guys tied their ties around their heads in an effort to impersonate Rambo.



Seniors Art Ables and Holli Binder laugh as they do a dance which requires them to go as low as they can. Students enjoyed participating in various dances to songs such as "Bootie Call" and "Tootsie Roll".

Senior Lesley Glands and Juniors Kelly Fallon, Kim Moseley and Kely Hill dance to a song about a chicken. Different kinds of songs made the dance more enjoyable for everyone.







Juniors Aaron Galindo and Christina Timmons watch and laugh as one of their friends dances inside their circle. Going to the dance with a friend sometimes takes some pressure off and can make the dance more fun.

Senior Denise Lilly dances with her boyfriend PHS graduate JimMcMurry. The dance was made more fun for Denise by just having Jim there.

Outstanding Record

Senior Men Strut Their Stuff!!!

Senior guys had the opportunity to show their stuff in the Outstanding Young Man competition. Twenty-nine contestants participated in the scholarship program, which was held on January 28.

Senior Daymon Johnston said, "I wanted to get involved in the Outstanding Young Man program because I heard it was really fun. It also offered good scholarship possibilities."

The participants were able to strut their style as they were judged on academics, physical fitness, casual wear and presence.

"My favorite part of the competition was seeing the guys all dressed up in tuxedos," said Kristine Campbell, senior.

Senior Tricia Swindle said, "I thought the physical fitness routine was the best! I liked seeing the guys having fun and getting into the routine. I also liked seeing Clay Davis's smiley face boxer shorts."

"The Outstanding Young Man program is unique to Portage. It is the only program of its kind designed for young men," said Mr. Joe Stevens, program coordinator.

Senior Aaron Reynolds said "A lot of hard work went into the program. We spent a lot of time practicing to get ready for the program."

" I had a lot of fun throughout the competition, hanging out with my friends and learning the different routines," said senior Dustin Sandoval.

"You really have fun in the Outstanding Young Man competition. It isn't a beauty pageant like everyone thinks. It's a good chance to hang out with guys you normally don't know and talk to," said David Skolak.

At the end of the competition, senior David Skolak was named Outstanding Young Man. The runners up were Mark Morales, Jason Imes, Daymon Johnston, and Michael Rake.

Dave said, "I think it is a great honor to be named Portage's Young Man, one that I will always remember. I will do my best to set good examples and will fulfill the title to my best ability."

.....Josie Werhowatz
.....Jenn Buergler

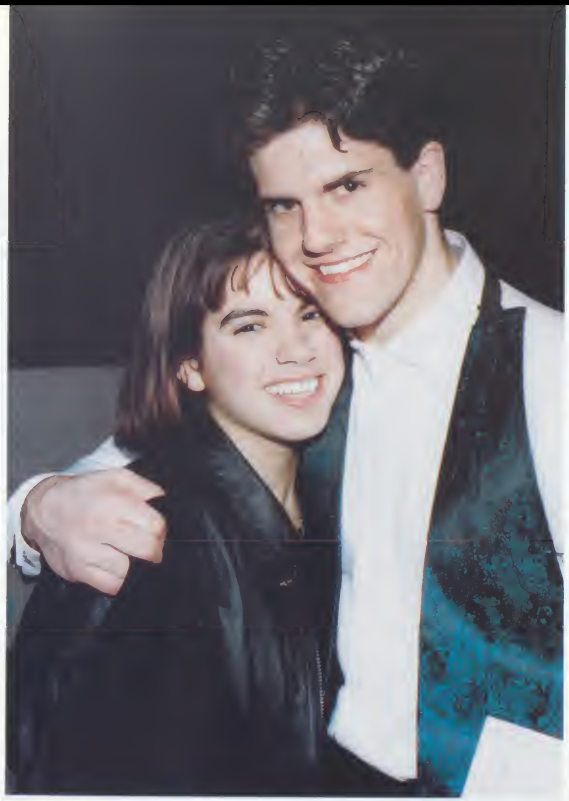






Paul Chandler shows off his outrageous vest during the O.Y.M. competition. Chandler participated in the wrestling sectional championship hours before the program.

Dave Skolak gives an address about his plans after graduation. Skolak was announced the 1995 Outstanding Young Man.



John embraces junior girlfriend Helena Golarz after the program. Berry won the physical fitness competition.

Freddie Castro embraces senior Teresa Wilkins as he is awarded a prize. Freddie was announced a winner of the physical fitness routine.





Senior Sarah Mitchell performs a comedy routine during the program. Special presentations gave the young men time to change into their tuxedos.

PHS graduate Nicole Power serenades Matt Mongoven with a song. Nicole sang while the judges tabulated the scores.



One for the Record

Hoopsters and 'Stamp' take Homecoming!

The PHS hoopsters led the way to a Winter Homecoming victory over LaPorte, 62-52. Despite the success, many students felt Winter Homecoming wasn't getting the attention it deserved.

Senior Tiffany Dillard said, "It seemed like an ordinary game. There should have been a pep rally to promote school spirit and get everyone involved in showing their support of the basketball team."

"Homecoming wasn't that exciting this year. A lot of people didn't even know it was homecoming, since we didn't have a spirit week. The only thing that made people aware of homecoming was voting for the homecoming court."

During the week nominations were made for Homecoming King, Queen, Prince, and Princess.

Juniors Kim Cipich, Gia Fornari, Jamy Hotchkiss,Trisha Martin, Jessica Mundell and Erika Murrow were princess candidates.

Juniors David Brubaker, Joe Christian, Scott Curran, Jason Skolak and Nick Wellman were the candidates for prince .

Candidates for Queen were seniors Julie Giancola, Denise Lilly, Robynne Lute, Kelly Poe, Amy Silverthorn and Sherri Stamper.

Candidates for King were seniors Jason Dudley, Jason Imes, Mike Jaso, Joe Kovats and David Ortiz.

At halftime on Jan. 20, the Homecoming Court was announced. The court consisted of Tricia, Joe, Sherri and Dave.

"The best part of homecoming was halftime. I liked it when Sherri Stamper got queened," said senior John Berry.

After the game a dance was held in the commons to celebrate the victory over LaPorte.

...Josie Werhowatz
...Jenn Buergler





Senior Sherri Stamper poses for a picture with her father and escort Mr. Richard Stamper. Sherri was voted Homecoming Queen by the entire student body.



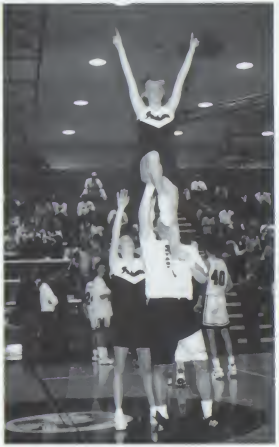
Junior Homecoming Prince Joe Christian dances to a fast song with junior Kari Glands. Joe was the leading rusher for the PHS football team.



Junior Nat Henson is 'fouled' in the varsity Homecoming game. The Indians defeated the Slicers in a close score in the fourth quater.

Senior basketball player Erik Taylor takes a breather with junior Erika Murrow at the dance. Erika also plays basketball and was nominated for Princess.





Senior Cari Taylor is held up during the announcement of the Varsity starting line up. The cheerleaders played a big part in the spirit of Homecoming.



Senior Joe Kovats dances with junior Homecoming Princess Trisha Martin. Joe was nominated for Homecoming King.

Record Performance

"My Fair Lady"

After months of memorizing lines, learning songs and perfecting dance routines, the spring musical was finally ready to be presented to the public. On April 21, 22 and 23, "My Fair Lady" was performed in the East Auditorium by 37 talented actors.

"My Fair Lady," adapted from George Bernard Shaw's play "Pygmalion," has been universally hailed as the greatest musical ever written. The story is set in London in the year 1912. It is about a poor woman named Eliza Doolittle who sells flowers and how a rich man, Henry Higgins, tries to change her into a respectable lady that he can pass off in society.

Junior Kaimi Blaha played the leading role as Eliza Doolittle. Kaimi commented, "I was honored to play the role of Eliza Doolittle. Eliza possesses a great deal of charm. She was a wonderful character to portray, and I had a lot of fun with her."

"I played the role of Henry Higgins. Henry is an arrogant character that is self absorbed in a charming way. He eventually is able to make way for the love he finds in Eliza Doolittle," said junior Alan Washburn.

Alan and Kaimi are just two of the talented cast members. Other cast members include freshmen Jacob Boyd and Jeremiah Newhall, sophomore Samantha Hodsden, juniors Derek Hart and Shawn Stutler, and seniors Josh Boyd, Dawn Bunker, Alma Marlin and Alynne Sanders.

The chorus, pit band, lighting and sound technicians, costume and set designer, student directors, and director Joe Stevens also put in many long hours.

"I thought the musical went really well. I was proud of the cast and their wonderful performance. I received many nice comments on the production," said Mr. Joe Stevens.

The hard work and dedication paid off. When it was all over, everyone involved in "My Fair Lady" had the satisfaction of knowing that their effort contributed to the huge success of the spring musical.

.....Josie Werhowatz





Freshman Jeremiah Newhall plays the role of Colonel Pickering.This was Jeremiah's first experience on the high school stage.



Eliza Doolittle sings a song to her devoted suitor Freddy. Juniors Kaimi Blaha and Derek Hart have been actively involved in various plays and musicals.



Henry Higgins teaches Eliza how to speak properly. Junior Alan Washburn has received numerous awards for his singing and stage acting.

Senior Josh Boyd, freshman Jacob Boyd and junior Shawn Stutler engage in witty conversation. The trio offered a lively performance filled with laughter.







Junior Kaimi Blaha plays the leading role as Eliza Doolittle. Kaimi has won various voice awards and has served as the co- president of the Thespians.

Seniors Stephanie Wilson and Dawn Bunker ,sophomore Samantha Hodsden and junior Carol Prigge happily dance together. They added their talent with contributed to the success of the Spring Musical.

Styles Set the Record

Variety Show Shows Students' Various Talents

The Variety Show provides an opportunity for students to entertain an audience with their talent. Various talents were exhibited. Talents ranged from monologues and comedy acts to singing and dancing.

"I thought the Variety Show was pretty good. There were so many different talents that were performed. My favorite act was Ryan Ritter. He played the 'Star Spangled Banner' on his guitar," said sophomore Juan Hinojosa.

One of the performers was senior Krissie Gillis. " I sang 'Part of Your World' from the movie 'The Little Mermaid'. I was a little nervous before the show. When I finally came out on stage, everyone was really receptive. When I finished singing and heard the applause, I felt like I did a really good job. The experience was definitely worthwhile," said Krissie.

Another act was performed by senior Sarah Mitchell. Sarah performed a comedy skit called 'Van Chat'.

Senior Marisa Calvert said, "I liked 'Van Chat'. I thought it was the funniest act. I liked it a lot."

"Everyone in the Variety Show did really well. I liked seeing everyone perform, especially Ed and Eddie," said senior Vickie Coello.

The final act consisted of seniors Eddie Escalante and Ed Anguiano. They rapped while 'Arsonists' provided the live alternative music in the background.

"Our act provided a chance to break racial barriers and perhaps make people realize that once two types of people find common ground and can relate to each other, anyone can get along," commented senior Ed Anguiano.

The Variety Show provided a night of enjoyable entertainment.

"The whole show was great," said junior Heather Johnston.

Junior Tiffany Kirchner said, "I enjoyed seeing the different acts perform.I had a lot of fun."

The Variety Show had a little bit of everything.The wide range of talent showed just how talented students really are!

...Josie Werhowatz





Sophomore Kavita Gupta performs a dance native to India. She has been dancing for five years "for the fun of it! "



Junior Julie Castro sings "Tomorrow". Julie performed this song in last years spring musical production of "Annie".



Sophomore Samantha Hodsden performs a monologue called "Passionella". She qualified for the state speech competition with this humorous monologue.

Junior Kevin Lunn makes music with his drums. He has been playing the drums in his spare time for several years.





Senior Ed Anguiano said the variety show gave him a chance to experiment and explore a new musical style. He rapped with senior Eddie Escalante.



Seniors Dawn Bunker and Stephanie Wilson sing a song entitled "In the Still of the Night". Both girls have shown their talent in various musicals.

A Memorable Night

"One Night One Rose"



After much preparation, such as finding the "perfect" dress or tuxedo, students began looking forward to Prom 1995. Young ladies and men primped up so they could look their best for one the most special nights of a high school career—Prom. "One Night One Rose" was sponsored by the junior class. It was held in the Porter County Expo Center on Friday, May 5. Tickets sold for $30.

Many couples began the evening by taking pictures before Prom. Senior Amanda West was no exception. "After I got ready and my boyfriend came over, we took a lot of pictures. Since this was my senior Prom I wanted to remember everything."

Once couples arrived at the Expo Center, their names were announced by Mr. Mundt as they entered the festivities. In between dances couples took pictures and mingled with one another.

"I liked seeing everyone all dressed up," said senior Marisa Calvert.

Senior Eric Hart said, "The highlight of the evening was when they played "You're the Inspiration" and "Love Will Keep Us Alive" back to back. It was a very romantic moment that my girlfriend and I shared." Eric attended Prom with junior Elizabeth Slatton. He added, "I will always remember spending one of the greatest evenings with a very special person."

Senior Erin Hamilton said, "I enjoyed spending time with my date Matt Cullen and my friends."

Even when Prom came to a close with the last dance, many couples also had plans for the day after Prom. Among the top places to go were Great America, Chicago and Turkey Run.

Senior Vicki Coello went to Great America. "I went to Great America because it's a traditional yet fun place to go the day after Prom," Vicki said.

Prom and the day after Prom was a much awaited event. When it was all over, students had memories that would last a lifetime!

.....Josie Werhowatz





Juniors David Brubaker and Jennifer Siminski dance together as Prom prince and princess. Voting for prom royalty took place during lunch hours of prom week.

Seniors Josh Boyd and Tonia Jarvis sway to Prom theme song "You're the Inspiration" by Chicago. Josh and Tonia were announced Prom king and queen.



Senior Brad Skafish and sophomore Dana Rogers arrive in style at the Expo enter. Couples began arriving as early as 5 p.m.

Seniors Mike Rake, Anne Crockett and Jeremy Juszczak share a laugh as Liz Johnson glances at the souvenir Prom program. Couples had to reserve their tables in advance so that they could sit with their friends.







Juniors Paul Chandler and Gia Fornari applaud as the Prom court is brought out. The crowning of Prom royalty was one of the evening's highlights.

Senior Denise Lilly dances the night away to "YMCA" by the Village People. Denise was also a Prom queen nominee.

Recording Spring Fun

Taking Time To Relax and Smell the Flowers

After months of getting up early, doing homework and dealing with the stress that comes along with school, many students felt the need for a vacation. Spring Break offered fun, relaxation and a time to get away from it all.

Many students traveled to warmer climates for vacation.

Seniors Tiffany Dillard and Nikki Brutout took a road trip to Nashville, Tennessee, and Tybee Island, Georgia. "We didn't really plan our vacation. It was a last minute decision to go somewhere. We just wanted to do something, so we wouldn't have to stay home," said Tiffany.

Junior Heather Smith traveled to Cancun with Tina Fingerhoot and her parents. "I had such a fun time! I went parasailing, jet skiing, and laid out in the warm weather. I loved getting away and meeting new people," said Heather.

Seniors Monica McIntyre, Renee Whiteman and Emily Martin traveled to Lubbock, Texas. They visited former PHS student Angela Meadows. "We had fun. The hot weather was a plus and we were able to get tan."

However, while many traveled abroad, some students stayed home. Although the weather wasn't warm, students were grateful that they didn't have to attend school.

"I worked for a few days over spring break, but that was better than having to go to school. The days I didn't work I just hung out," senior Sharon Wilfong said.

Junior Brigette Swab said, "I didn't go anywhere because I had no money. I mostly worked and played pool at TJ's and Camelot. I also went to a party, got my license, and went to the dunes."

Spring Break 1995 was enjoyed by many. It came at a time most needed. Most of all, it provided just enough fun and relaxation so students could finish the school year with the energy they needed to excel.

...Josie Werhowatz





Senior Jill Hudson and junior Gene Surprenant catch some rays from the sun. They spent spring break in Waikiki Beach, Hawaii.



Foreign exchange student senior Victoria Nikonchuk shares a moment with Abraham Lincoln in Springfield , Illinois. Victoria is from the Ukraine and has been visiting various part of the United States.



Seniors Kellie Poe, Tricia Swindle, Mandy Mietke and Sarah Mitchell have fun in the sun in Florida. While there, they ran into Principal Forrest Rhode.

Seniors Jeanna Lopez, Jayme Perez, Jen Recktenwall, Amy Silverthorn, Kara Kitchell and Vanessa Vargas smile for the camera. The ladies relaxed in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.





Seniors Nikki Szmutko and Amy James enjoy the scenery in Hawaii. They had fun snorkling, visiting Pearl Harbor and attending a luau.



Seniors Michelle Rivera, Michelle Olivencia, Lisa Fain, Janet Johnson and Kim Pieper hike on Camel Back Mountain. They enjoyed their vacation in Scottsdale, Arizona.

'95 Marks Centennial Graduation

Threatening Storms Move Celebration to Gym



As graduation approached seniors began feeling mixed emotions. Seniors were proud that they made it to graduation and happy that they could finally begin a new chapter of their lives. At the same time, many felt the sadness of going their separate ways, leaving their friends and the comfortable atmosphere that they experienced everyday at school.

Senior Monica Teso said, "I'm a little nervous about graduation, yet excited. I'm happy that I'm going on with my life and done with high school, but I'm nervous about starting college and meeting new people. I'm going to miss all my friends and the great teachers."

On Friday June 9, seniors were rewarded for all their hard work and effort. 591 Members of the Class of 1995 proudly received their diplomas dressed in their caps and gowns. They were the 100th graduating class. Due to overcast skies the ceremony was held in the gymnasium at 7:30 P.M. Retiring principal Mr. Forrest Rhode gave the commencement address. Robynne Lute was Valedictorian. Jeremy Conner was Salutatorian.

"The ceremony was really nice except I wish the weather would have been nicer so it could have been held outside in the football stadium," senior Kyla Landrum said.

Senior Chet Turner commented, "I was so happy when the finally announced my name. I was even happier when I got my insert to put inside my diploma. Just knowing I finally finished high school is such an accomplishment."

"Even though I'll miss my friends I am glad I'm finally done with school. Like the senior class says 'It's been a long strange trip'," senior Sarah Wadle said

"I just think it's sad everyone we are so used to seeing in the halls will be going separate ways. But, we will always share the special bond of going to the same school together and we will meet again at the reunion," senior Erin Hamilton said.

Although the class of 1995 may not be sure where they are going, they will never forget where they have been.

.....Josie Werhowatz
.....Jenn Buergler





Senior Dennis Duncan enters the gymnasium. The gym was packed with people who wanted to share the special moment with the graduates.

Junior Alicia Smith prepares to lead senior Stephanie Markos into the gymnasium. Junior class officers led seniors to their seats.



Senior David Ortiz has his moment in the spotlight. For many students, receiving their diploma was the highlight of their high school years.

Senior Shawna Jenkins helps fellow classmate Ryan Nystrom put on his graduatin cap. Seniors met in the auditorum prior to graduation.





Senior Jenny Hunter picks up her diploma insert. After graduates picked up their inserts they gathered in the Commons to congratulate each other.

Valedictorian Robynne Lute, Salutorian Jeremy Conner and senior class President Steve Letic smile for the camera. Each of them made a speech to their classmates.



Record Performances

Musical Stars Come To Portage

Airband is an event that offers plenty of entertainment. The lip sync contest was held on March 18 in the auditorium. Students that participated were able to imitate various music artists. The acts ranged from Aerosmith to the Brady Bunch.

Senior Kara Kitchel participated . "I wanted to be involved in the show because as a senior this was my last chance in it. Some friends and I decided to perform a Brady Bunch song. I had such a good time because we were able to wear bell bottoms and act crazy."

"I wanted to participate in Airband to pay homage to Kurt Kobain. I also wanted to see if I could actually win anything at this school," said senior Erik Barthel.

Airband 1995 lived up to the high standards set in previous years.

"I liked everything about Airband, especially the Aerosmith act," said Meagan Kester, junior.

Junior Adam Vasquez felt all the acts were good in their own way. "My favorite act was the group that performed 'Jungle Love' because they really got into it!"

At the end of the show, students were able to vote for their favorite acts. They were given ballots to vote for the winners.

First place went to seniors Steve Letic, Matt Godsey, Jason Imes, and Ryan Reagor and junior Nathan Pickett. They performed 'Jungle Love' by The Time.

"It was great being on stage and hearing everyone cheer," said Steve.

Juniors Nick Wellman, Kevin DeVries, Tom Bonez, Joe Christian, Chris Spurrier and Scott Curran performed "Walk This Way" by Aerosmith and finished in second place.

Third place was awarded to seniors Erik Barthel and David Crook and sophomore Barry Wilson. They entertained the audience with "Heart Shaped Box" by Nirvana.

Seniors Mike David, Tom Whittaker, Jason Vespo and Paul Matthew and junior Shawn Stutler finished in fourth place. They performed the song "Lunch Box" by Marilyn Manson.

Honorable mention was awarded to seniors Rebecca Startup, Josh Boyd, Alma Marlin and Jen Wilson and freshman Jacob Boyd for their performance of "Shine" by Newsboys.

Airband 1995 was an entertaining night with the stars.

.....Josie Werhowatz





Junior Joe Christian rocks the auditorium performing with Aerosmith. The group placed second for "Walk This Way".



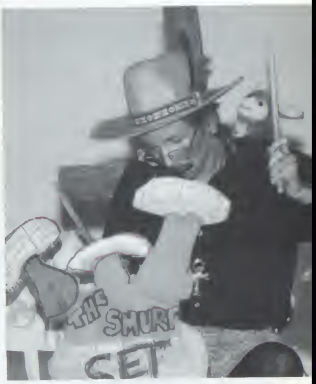
Senior Matt Godsey strikes a pose as he performs "Jungle Love" by The Time. The group took home first place.





Junior Tom Bonez sings as Steven Tyler from the group Aerosmith. His group performed "Walk This Way".

Senior Paul Matthew plays the drums as a member of Marilyn Manson. The group was awarded fourth place for their performance "Lunch Box".





Senior Alma Marlin claps to the song "Shine". The Newsboys received an honorable mention for their performance.

Seniors Roger Worak and Steve Letic along with junior Nathan Pickett performs "The Bird" by the Time. They performed as an encore act.

Go Portage!!!

School Spirit Soars to New Heights

School spirit is an important part of every school. It is a way to show enthusiasm and pride for a school that we call our own. Everyone had their own way of showing school spirit.

Junior Nick Wellman showed his school spirit by playing football and basketball. "Playing sports is a good way to show school spirit. Our school looks good when our sport teams do well and when the students and community are supportive and show their enthusiasm," Nick said.

Senior Tiffany Dillard was one of the many students who showed her spirit by participating in poms and pep club. Along with the cheerleaders, the poms decorated players' lockers, baked and decorated the commons with posters. Tiffany said, "I think school spirit is very important. It shows teams that you're behind them all the way."

"I thought it was great that so many people showed their school spirit during football season. People bought Portage shirts and traveled all the way to Indianapolis to cheer our team on at the state game. That says a lot about our students and our school," said senior Julie Giancola.

Besides participating in sports, cheering and attending games, there are yet other ways students showed their spirit. These included excelling in academics or participating in any of the extracurricular activities.

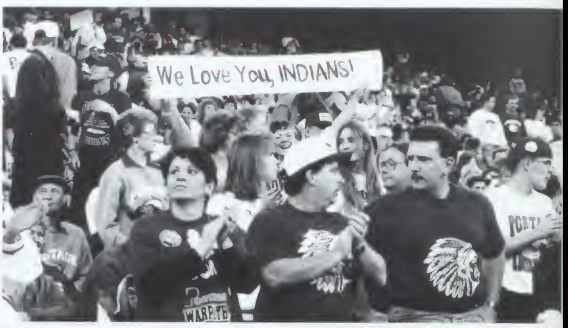
"I was a member of National Honor Society and worked hard in my classes," said senior Jessica Taiclet.

Junior Alan Washburn said, "I showed my school spirit by using my talents to participate in the plays and musicals."

Senior Sarah Newhall said, "Our school showed school spirit when students donated money to the Oklahoma bomb relief fund and participated in the blood drive sponsored by the National Honor Society and the Stacy McKay bone marrow drive."

Each student had his or her own unique way of expressing school spirit. The spirit not only reflected the students but also the students' pride for the place they call school.

.....Josie Werhowatz





During the Variety Show, students showed their spirit by participating in off-the-wall activities as senior Adam Bell performs his funky dance routine.



With probably the most school spirit, the cheerleaders and Poms preped the school for joyous times at sporting events. Senior Cari Taylor gets to the "top of the mountain" in one of the cheer routines the girls practice for.



Even teachers got behind their favorite tribe! Cheerleader coach Gerri Kotyuk and Decathlon coach Jill Mangold observe the players as "The Big Red Football Machine" hurled itself to a quite perfect season.

For most of the events at school, fans showed their spirit by painting their faces in traditional warpaint.





During the week of the fall homecoming, seniors ruled every day when it came down to class competition. Even though the annual bonfire was canceled, shedding some spirit, students got back on the saddle and rallied like never before!



Getting ready for the fall homecoming, senior Steve Letic spray paints one of the boulders used for the Commons decoration. At graduation, the senior class president said his time at Portage "wuz all good!"

For the Record

Seniors Laura Weeks and Tonya Jarvis participate in a Leadership classroom activity. The Leadership class is a selected group of juniors and seniors that travel to the elementary schools to teach games to young children.





Senior John Berry thinks about how he plans to organize his term paper. All the senior English classes were given time in the computer labs to type their term papers.





Junior Kelly Clouse learns how to properly develope film in her photography class. After taking a photography class some students enjoy joining the yearbook or newspaper staffs to execute their skills.

With 22 different sports in three seasons, the athletic program provided over 1000 students with opportunities to play and succeed. The football team, in particular, set the stage for award-winning performances all year.

Boys' soccer began in the fall this year, and shared the field with the first girls' soccer team. The football team won Homecoming for the first time in four years, tackled an undefeated regular season, and progressed in playoffs to the State Finals at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, for the first time since 1977. The boys' cross country team wrapped up the fall sports season by sending seven runners to the National meet in Reno, Nevada.

The winter sports went crashing through a successful season. Starting with the boys' varsity basketball team winning Winter Homecoming and securing a Sectional title , the wrestling team muscled their way through a tough season snagging Conference, Sectional and Regional Championships. A second place finish at Semi-state enabled the team to send seven wrestlers to the State meet. The gymnastics team also tumbled its way through Semi-state and sent one member to State competition.

Baseball, track, softball, boys' golf and girls' tennis teams competed this spring. Despite early cancellations due to cold and wet weather, most games and matches were completed.

The baseball team dominated the area as a consistent state power, while the girls tennis team worked through a rebuilding year. Girls' track won the Duneland Athletic Conference championship. The May 30 athletic award night gave parents and athletes an opportunity to celebrate the season's unfinished successes.



Sophomores Joe Durk and Roxie Vallengoen are members of the Legend yearbook staff. Staff members produce the entire yearbook on Macintosh computers.

Achieving the Unbelievable!

It all began one hot summer day. As the boys stood on the edge of the Portage High School football field, they began to envision the possibilities. As they began practicing, even though the two-a-days were killers, they saw that with good leadership and hard work, they could achieve the unthinkable. And they did.

From the beginning, the 1994 Indians had a plan that they would follow to lead them to success. "Our goal was to be state champs, so we set goals and just dreamed," first-year Head Coach Craig Buzea said.

Every Friday after Friday the Indians would run onto the field to find an enormous crowd staring them in the faces. Each week the numbers of fans increased as did the Indians' success. The Indians were the center of all the media attention. Many members of the team appeared in high-light sections of the **Post-Tribune's** Time-Out. The team was the talk of all the local radio and sports show—especially "Wally's World" and "The Indiana High School Prep Football Report" which was hosted by the ever famous Mark Smith. Mark was despised by the entire team, especially senior co-captain, Roger Peele. Despite all the attention, the Indians' Big Red Football Machine kept working hard.

The players had many different memories, all of which cannot be mentioned—but a few will stay in their minds forever. "I will never forget the terrible food we had to eat while we were down in Indianapolis," junior full-back Joe Christian said.

"The best part of the whole year was having an almost perfect record which took us to state," senior Joe Kovats said.

"The state finals were the best part of the season, seeing the kids do things that were thought to be impossible," Coach Buzea said.

It is no longer inpossible. They achieved it.

... Jenn Buergler

PHS		OPP
27	Lake Central	24
42	LaPorte	14
28	Merrillville	0
56	Crown Point	24
48	M.C. Rogers	8
43	Hobart	7
28	Valparaiso	7
41	Chesterton	7
	Sectionals	
47	South Bend	0
37	Valparaiso	8
36	LaPorte	6
	Regionals	
21	Lake Central	7
	Semi-State	
14	Ft.Wayne Snider	3
	State	
12	Castle	30



After the regional game at Lake Central, which Portage won, 21-7, the team did their new salute to the school by rasing their helmets and singing the school song to both sides of the field.

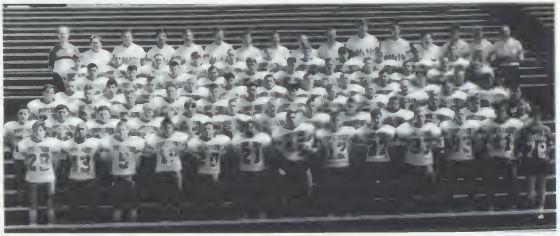
With the other new attributes to the season, the guys worked through the practices by accomplishing "The Warpath", a new, intensity obstacle course.

Before the L.C. game, players get their spirits up and practice blocking for the ball carrier. Players kept their spirit when junior Joe Christian was injured during the second quarter and was carried off in an ambulance. The Indians won, and Joe was back in action the next week for the semistate game.



Dragging a member of the Castle defense squad into the endzone, junior Joe Christian scored the first touchdown of the 5A State Championship Game down in the RCA dome. Joey was a leading scorer throughout the season for the "Big Red Football Machine."





Varsity Football—Front Row: Jamie McDouell, Dave Chavez, Ryan McGuffey, Joe Tinnell, Scott Curran, Steve Lugo, Jason Levandowski, Ryan Brown, Jeff Camp, Chris Beach, Tom Bonez, Nick Wellman, Trainer Jamie Kawiecki. **Row 2:** Bob Richards, Bill Knapp, Roger Peele, Jeff Knapp, Matt Yoder, Marry Costello, Joe Mrak, Kris Scherff, Kevin Hilley, Matt Crizer, Casey Hauswirth, Bobby McKinney, Trainer Samantha Minton. **Row 3:** Casey Palichuck, Joe Kovats, Phil Frechette, Mike Razus, Daymon Johnston, Dave Ortiz, Josh Coppinger, Mike Little, Jeremy Putman, Dave Skolak, Joe Christian, Mike Jaso, Trainer Kerry Dailey. **Row 4:** Brian Warchuss, Marry Webb, Dusty Risteau, Tony Ballor, Will Conners, Scott Misner, Carl Buergler, Ryan Gabey, Jeremy DeHaven, Trainer Jessica Minton. **Row 5:** Charlie Greer, Sean Conners, Rashad Ibraham, Ryan Lang, Ian Pittman, Pete Shaw, Tom Orange, Jason Marcotte, Jeremy Lewis, Trainer Sarah McEwan. **Row 6:** Justin Smith, Pete Hernandez, Chris Spurrier, Doug Samuel, Chris Hilley, Eric Christy, Matt Anderson, Ryan Banogan, Ryan Bonner, Kevin DeVries, Jon Lopez, Manager Vance Catlin. **Back Row:** Dan Merrill, Steve Livingston, Ken Elwood, Pete Turpa, Terry Milner, Dave Mattix, Jeff Smith, Craig Buzea, Phil Wright, Larry Tharp, Jay Hodges, Jim Patell, Mark Harsha, Brett St. Germain, Myron Fessler, Chris Condo.





"The entire team was proud to make it all of the way to state."
—Scott Curran, '96





At the welcome home pep rally junior co-captain Nick Wellman and senior co-captains Roger Peele, Dave Ortiz and Daymon Johnston present the state runner-up trophy they received at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis. For the first time since 1977, the football team made it to the state championship game.

Helping Earn Glory

As fans cheered on the intense action at the Portage football field, they were most likely thinking of the varsity players. The freshman and JV players, however, also proved to be an essential part of the team.

The freshman and JV players didn't seem to mind if varsity football got more publicity and recognition. Sophomore Scott Misner said, "When we get older, we'll have our spot in varsity, so it doesn't matter."

Sophomore Jeff Knapp added, "The upperclassmen really encourage us."

Besides encouragement from others, all of the players had ways to prepare for games. "We have to concentrate. I usually go over plays before the games, and I make sure not to goof off," Scott said.

Freshman Patrick Newton agreed that concentration was very important in preparation for the games. Jeff said, "It's great before the games, because everyone just gets really psyched."

Preparation and hard work paid off for the Indians with great performances on the playing field. When they left the field, everyone carried memories with them. "The best thing that happened was when we won Conference," Patrick said.

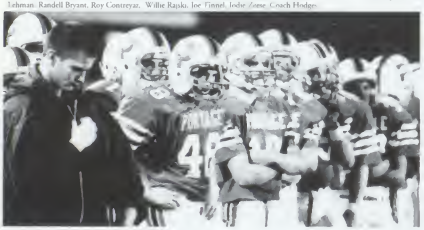
Patrick said, "It's a lot of fun, and you get to hit people. It's just something fun to do with your friends. You just go out and play football." Most players agreed that, above all, they were out for a good time.

Jeff seemed to sum it up as "just having fun with the guys."

...Elizabeth Verbich



JV/Frosh Football Front Row: Chris Marton, Joe Martin, Ryan Taclet, Mike Henderson, Ron Necko, Stephan Kinlaw, Marc Tarpley. **Row 2:** Jason Ortiz, Bill Parnel, Phil Cagna, Joe Hall, Aaron Branham, Brian Duncan, William Busch, Jim DeWitt. **Row 3:** Tony Blythstone, Chris Reglin, Tom Johnston, Chuck Muir, Matt Cruzet, Jeremy Korem, Ryan Korbar. **Row 4:** Mike Lewandowski, Tony Guitrrez, Richie Dean, Marc Nelson, Joe James, Josh Davis, David Torres, T.J. Black. **Row 5:** Adam Scott, Brandon Wittman, John Bailey, T.J. Boyd, Jason Maxwell, Brian Freeman, Jesse Gibson. **Row 6:** Pat Newton, Eric Reynolds, Eric Erway, Adam Alanis, Todd Griffey, Daniel Gesmond, Mike Jones, Tim Sudlow, Anthony Sobczak. **Row 7:** Coach Tharp, Jason Monhaut, Dusty Rutenz, Mike Rio, Steve Condor, Chris Adkins, Chad Darnell, Blake Wisman. **Row 8:** Coach Wright, Dan Lehmann, Randell Bryant, Roy Contreyar, Willie Rasku, Joe Tippit, Jodie Jone, Coach Hodge.



The junior varsity team members look on as the battle with Hobart continues. The JV was defeated by Hobart in a close high scoring game.



Freshman Johnny Lewis turns it on for extra yards against Hobart. Lewis lead the Junior Varsity in rushing touch downs.



Freshman Joey Hannel races past the Merrillville defense for a touchdown. Joey led the running attack for the Indians.





"In the beginning of the season, I broke my arm, but rehab got me back in the helm."
-Carl Buergler '97



Sophomore Jeremy Lewis breaks tackles of a tough Hobart defense. Jeremy played mainly JV but also helped the Varsity running attack.

Setting It Straight

The Varsity volleyball team set the record straight when they dug their way into sectionals this season.

The goal of many team members was to win sectionals. They were disappointed when they fell to the Valparaiso Vikings with scores of 1-15, 15-3 and 5-15.

"When preparing for games we did drills and worked with our skills," said junior Shana Pollock, outstanding net player.

Senior Mindy Witt said, "Normally we practiced fundamentals, like setting and spiking. Then we would go over the stats of our opponents."

These girls worked hard during the season practicing their skills so they had a chance to reach their goal, which was to win sectionals.

Junior Christie Lovings said her main goal was to accomplish winning sectionals. That maybe why she was the outstanding defensive player of the year.

Senior Shawna Hess said her main goal was,"to win sectionals and get over 500 (to win more than half of their games."

The Lady Indians had hard and easy parts of the game.

The Varsity volleyball team drove hard and steadily into sectionals, preparing for games and learning hard and easy parts of the game. The best part was the friendships that were made during the season.

The Lady Indians had a season of learning, of winning and some disappointment. For some, the dream of winning the sectinals is over, but for the rest of the team there's next year and their hopes will stay high.

By: Stacy Lemley

Varsity Record: 16-13-2

PHS		OPP
0	Noll	2
2	Morton	0
2	Marquette	0
2	Wheeler	0
2	Washington	0
0	Elston	2
0	Lake Central	2
1	Andrean	2
1	Merillville	2
2	Highland	1
2	Crown Point	0
2	Kankakee	1
2	Chesterton	1
2	M.C. Rogers	1
2	Valparaiso	0
2	Westside	0
0	Hobart	2
2	Gavit	1
Elston Tourney		
2	Marquette	0
2	Westside	0
Chesterton Tourney		
1	Chesterton	2
2	Gavit	0
1	Clark	2
St. Joseph Tourney		
0	Plymouth	2
1	St. Joseph	1
Sectionals		
1	Valparaiso	2



Angie McWhirter,junior, goes up for the spike after senior Lori Bonez sets the ball. After a hard fought battle, Portage came out victorious against Chesterton with a score of 2-1.





Varsity Volleyball **Front Row:** Head Coach Cheryl Girman, Lori Bonez, Mindy Witt, Shawna Hess, Kari Wiseman, Assistant Coach Jodi Bradach **Row 2:** Christy Ramian, Christie Lovings **Row 3:** Missy Fekete, Shana Pollock **Row 4:** Angie McWhirter





"We had a lot of fun while trying our best. It was well worth it!"

—Kari Wiseman, '95



Junior Christie Lovings bumps the return serve up to the front line for the set back and spike over the net while seniors Shawna Hess and Angie McWhirter look on.

Can You Dig It?

Doing laps around the gym, staying after five days a week, and practicing hard. Those are just some of the qualities that made up the freshman and JV volleyball players. For many, practicing and staying after was well worth the hardships and defeat the players faced.

"At the beginning of the season we had a hard time getting along, but towards the end we put our differences behind and started working as a team," freshman Sarah Uzelac said.

"With the help of our coach, we really learned about team work and working together," freshman Sarah Johnson added.

Before each game, every girl has different ways to motivate them to look forward to the game that night.

"Eating a lot of chocolate and thinking positive is just a few ways I get revved up for the game," freshman Erica Radic said.

"Leaving my personal problems outside the game and taking it easy is how I got pumped up," freshman Kelley Ramian added.

The girls set up different goals for themselves differed as well.

Sophomore Mary Mazurek, "Just trying my hardest in every thing I did was my goal and learning from my mistakes was a goal I set up for myself."

"Going to the Valpo tournament and coming in second place is one of the things I'll never forget!," Johnson added.

The season may be over for the volleyball team, but the many memories the team shared will last a lifetime.

...Kelly Crowe



JV Volleyball Front Row: Missy Lilly, Crystal Cannon, Mandy Cichowlaz **Row 2:** Shawna Carter, Coach Terry Vittetoe, Heather Campbell **Row 3:** Mary Mazurek, Cindy Hatala.



Freshman Volleyball Front Row: beth Zolkowski, Sarah Uzelic, Sarah Hopp **Row 2:** Jamie Kornacki, Elaine Getting, Sarah Johnson, Julien Pezel, Kelley Ramian **Row3:** Shawn Sweeney, Denise Lilly, Erica Radic, Coach Clara Lilly.

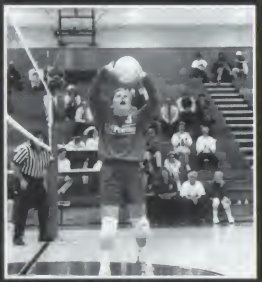


In the M.C. Rogers game, Mandy Cichowlaz, freshman, comes down from the air after spiking the ball hard to her opponents. Sophomore Cindy Hatala looks on as her team mate returns to the court.

Sophomore Heather Campbell attempts to return the ball over the net in the Michigan City Rogers game. Portage strived to perform excellently and to full potential. The team came out ahead with a record of 10-2-1.







"Just trying my hardest in everything I did was my goal."

-Mary Mazurek, '97



Sophomore Mandy Cichowlaz attempts to return the ball to the M.C. Rogers team by bumping the ball. There were hard and easy parts of the season. The Lady Indians worked hard to get the satisfaction of a good season.

Accomplishing Dreams

Living, eating and breathing tennis together for three years, the varsity boys tennis team had a dream. This dream was to make it to the state meet by their senior year and with a tremendous amount of hard work and dedication to the sport they did it and more than that, they had an undefeated season.

Leading the team to victory were coach Mason and coach Cook, also referred to by the team as "The Duke" and "Hot Rod."

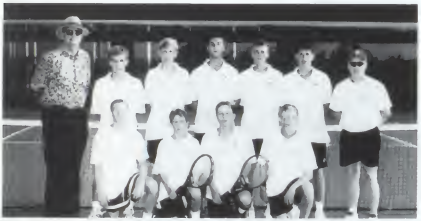
"The six of us have been together on the varsity team since our sophomore year and in that time we became a family of some sort and worked together toward a dream that we all shared," Tom Kaminski ,senior said.

That dream was to make it to the state meet by their senior year and the team, working together ,accomplished it.

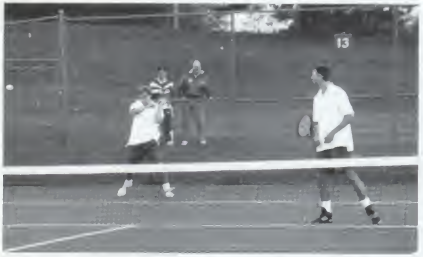
"We realized that we made our dream come true after our biggest match of the year (Munster 3-2) when we were on the bus getting ready to come home," Tom said. "The Munster bus was right behind us and we watched all of them pile onto their bus with solemn faces. It was at that point when we finally realized what we actually did."

The team made it through semi-state as they wanted to but unfortunately fell to a tough Lafayette team during the state meet, however were satisfied with what they accomplished, for action and teamwork is all that really matters.

...Amy James



Varsity Tennis— Front Row: Geoff Hatfield, Joey Gabey, Clay Davis, Cal Ackerman. **Back Row:** Coach Richard Mason, Tom Kaminski, Eric Mason, Erik Taylor, Justin Smith, Cliff Barnett, Coach Rodney Cook.



Number two ranked doubles team, seniors Tom Kaminski and Erik Taylor play a tough match against Valpo. The Indians shut the Vikings out with a score of 5-0.



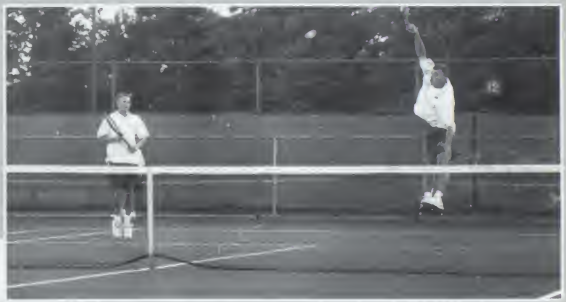
Sophomore Joey Gabey shows his exhaustion after a tough match against Merrillville. The team lost to Merrillville 3-2 in sectionals.

Senior Justin Smith smashes the ball over the net in an attempt to shut out a tough Chesterton opponent. Portage won with a score of 5-0.





"The intense competition is what kept me going throughout the season."
-Cliff Barnett, '95



Number one ranked doubles team for Portage, seniors Justin Smith and Geoff Hatfeild wrap another victory for the Indians as Justin skillfully smashes the ball over the net.

Be the Ball

The sun is shining and the air is cool and fresh. The golfer grips the club, concentrates on the ball, and swings for a perfect hit. What could be better than enjoying sport and competition on a perfect day in the great outdoors? Perhaps getting school recognition for the effort would make it even more worthwhile.

Many members of the golf team seemed to agree with this point of view. Being a part of the team was also a chance to set and reach goals. Sophomore Liz Negron said, "My goal was just to improve on my game." However, some players had more specific goals.

"I wanted to make it to Regionals," Senior Glenn Ballor stated.

Golf is different from other sports in many ways. "It's more complicated than people think. It takes more mental strength than physical strength," Liz said.

Glenn added, "It's different every time you play."

"One of the best things that happened this season was that the younger kids stepped up to play varsity," he said.

Whether attaining specific personal goals, or just enjoying the fun of competition and teamwork, the golf team worked hard to make the season a memorable one.

...Elizabeth Verbich



Boys' Golf—Front Row: Mike Sanchez, Mike Martinez, Todd Pulsoni. **Row 2:** Robert Loomis, Jim Napier, Joe Hall, Emanuel Forianos, Joe James, Bob Cox. **Back Row:** Bill Swerdon, Aaron Fenters, Adam Scott, Rick Morgan, Joel Alderson, Todd Kobitz, Glenn Ballor.



Girls' Golf—Front Row: Elizabeth Johnson, Kellie Poe. Jernny Babjack, Heather Price, Lisa Fain. **Back Row:** Liz Negron, Sarah Zimmerman, Sonja Sturges, Lisa Morrisroe, Rebecca Reibly, Kathy Ostrander, Jody Deckard, Misty Oatsvall, Cristina Timmons, Coach Tom Milakovic.



Chiopping the ball up into the air for a possible hole in one, junior Bill Swerdon attempts to win the gold for his team. Getting a hole in one is very unlikely but very memorable.

Just after her shot, senior Kellie Poe confronts her teammates and coach to tell of the hard part of playing. For the past three years, Kellie has played golf for the Indians.

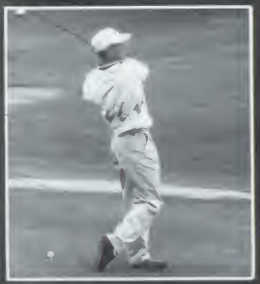


As sophomore Aaron Fenters putts to success for the win, junior Rich Morgan eyes the ball to make sure it will go in. The golf teams have played at Robbinhurst Golf Club for several years.





For the win at hole number three, senior Lisa Fain putts the ball in at Robbinhurst Golf Club during a practice. Lisa has enjoyed and played golf at Portage ever since she was a freshman.



"The best thing that happened was when the younger kids stepped up to play varsity!"
-Glenn Ballor, '95

Juniors Heather Price and Cristina Timmons converse with each other about the golf outing that the Indians won. Both juniors played varsity.



Young Guns

When only two senior varsity runners and the rest of the boys cross country team consisted mainly of juniors and sophomores, many felt they did well for their age.

"We did well for the exception of our age. The season was pretty much a rebuilding season for next year," said junior Mike Foley.

Friendship helped the age difference in the successful season of 8-1.

"We all got along so great! We just kept together and kept focused all the way. We rarely ever fought, and if we did it was because of the stress of just basically training for next year," Mike added.

Sophomore Justin Sawochka said, "Friendship was an extremely major factor in the season because we helped each other and stuck by each other. In the distance runs, you run with your teammates and have time to encourage them. The coaches were also helped a lot."

"Coach (Bill) Wilke is the greatest! He kept after you to do things right, and encouraged us so much. He kept us in focus and just plainly looked out for us," said junior Nick Morris.

"Coach Wilke is still the greatest motivator and influence in the world! He's been the biggest help in all the events," replied Mike.

The team said that they can't wait for next season, as this one was a pure fun rebuilding season!

-Joe Dark

Varsity Record: 8-1

PHS		OPP	
20	Lake Central	41	New Prairie Invite
			5th
20	Merrilville	42	Culver Military Invite
			3rd
26	LaPorte	31	
26	New Prairie	29	Manchester Invite
			1st
24	Crown Point	35	
15	M.C. Rogers	49	DAC
			3rd
17	Chesterton	45	
29	Valparaiso	27	Sectionals
			2nd
15	Hobart	50	
Penn Hokum Karem			Regionals
3rd			4th
Rebel Invite			Semi-state
1st			4th
Rensselaer Central Invite			State
2nd			10th



Coming into the homestretch, it's all Portage as they get first place in the Manchester Invite as sophomore Justin Sawochka leads the pack.



Pacing himself towards victory and taking nice easy strides, junior Rueben Perez helps bring the Indians an 8-1 overall dual meet season record.

Boy's Cross Country—Front Row: Pat Helmsy, Mike Jackson, Eric Jaso, Tim Galati, Steve Cook, Ken Timm, Bryon Chandler, Nick Munoz, Tom Taylor. Row 2: Justin Sawochka, Mike Foley, Scott McDonald, Chris Westerkamp, Josh Shearer, Rob McKay, Jeff Fain, Tim Mulvihill, Alan Kane, Rueben Perez, Nick Morris. Back Row: Coach John Kappas, Brian Baugh, Jeremy Conners, Cory Schnarr, James Brasseur, Terry Wampler, Frank Essig, Coach Bill Wilke.



At Woodland Park for a Portage meet, senior Alan Kane leads the pack as they race towards the end.





As he paces towards a victorious win, Scott McDonald, sophomore, turns a corner at the Rebel Central Invite. Portage got a second place at the meet.



"We did well considering how young we all were."

-Mike Foley, '96

During one of the practice runs, the boy's cross country team prepares for many races that will endure hard work and require proper conditioning.



Life in the Fast Lane

The girls' cross country team had a few minor injuries in the beginning of the season, but still managed to finish the season with a record of 5-3 and a DAC record of 4-3. The team's confidence and enthusiasm helped them overcome their early season problems.

Despite that, the Lady Indians felt they had a good season. With the casualties early in the season, they needed to try even harder to get their goals accomplished.

The Lady Indians were also running without the support, enthusiasm and confidence of senior Michelle Olivencia, who left for girls soccer in the fall.

"Running and having people cheer for you is really great for a person. Friendship is also a real good factor of running," said junior Jenene Stafford.

"Running with my friends makes it exciting and also gives a sense of being a winner.!" Freshman Jennie Hamilton exclaimed.

Working together as a team by putting all 110% effort and hard work with many practice sessions can be tough. Kim Hendley, freshman, said, "I like the team, but I especially like the coach, even though running all the time can be hard."

Senior Beth Kozrowski said, "Even though I didn't do as good as I expected myself to do, I never wanted to give up my chance of succeeding. Also, being a senior , people expect more out of you because it is your last year. You feel as if you're under a tremendous amount of pressure. My parents also expect my best and that's what I give them."

Jennie added, "My parents just wanted me to give my hardest and not give up because I will make myself feel worse as a failure."

Sophomore Cristina Chandler said, "Everybody had to work for what they wanted or needed to achieve. The team as a whole became one working single unit, and that was helpful."

Coming back for their sophomore, junior, or senior year is no doubt in the minds of each of the runner's minds. The girls wish to accomplish their goals once again.

...Brandi Jones
Joe Durk

Varsity Record: 5-3

PHS		OPP
15	Merrillville	47
18	LaPorte	43
16	Crown Point	47
16	New Prairie	47
45	Chesterton	15
24	MC Rogers	31
40	Valparaiso	18
41	Hobart	45

Penn Hokum Karem
3rd
Rebel Invite
2nd
Rensselaer Invite
2nd
New Prairie Invite
5th
Culver Invite
9th
Manchester Invite
10th
Conference
4th
Sectionals
3rd
Regionals
4th
Semi-State
7th



At the Penn Hokum Karem, Portage placed third out of nine teams, wheras last year they placed second. Sophomore Cristina Chandler runs wearily as she takes off in a relay from the tag of Emily Frechette.

Girls Cross Country Front Row: Kristen Cunningham, Tessie Frechette, Jennie Hamilton, Beth Kozrowski. **Row 2:** Emily Frechette, Marcy Greer, Christy Menendez, Jill Kozrowski, Yvette Menendez, Amanda Palmateer, April Samuels. **Row 3:** Coach Jay White, Kelly Rich, Natalie Fornari, Korey Reynolds, Michelle Revoir, Jeannen Stafford, Angie Zolkowski, Cristina Chandler, Kim Hendley





"The team as a whole became one working, single unit, and that was helpful!"

Cristina Chandler -'97





Led by Coach Jay White, the Lady Indians run for practice. The girl's record for the season was 5-3. Team unity was a major factor for the season.

Pelé Would Be Proud

After going back to back seasons without having even one month of rest or relaxation can be hard. Just ask the boys soccer teams. They had quite a change when the regular spring season got moved forward to fall with girls soccer. "It was hard going back to back, but we accomplished our goal," said sophomore Chris Ward.

"But the practices all summer long were terrible!" Complained Jeremy O'Neal, sophomore.

Many people thought that with such a brisk transition, the boys would be lethargic, tired and just plain out of shape! They proved everyone wrong!

"I think we did great for coming off tired! The coaches helped out a lot and the team work between the guys was incredibly helpful for pulling off a good season!" Replied senior Mark Morales. Mark was named the most improved senior player.

The unity in the team helped them both on and off the field. Junior Bob Billick said, "We worked a lot better together this past year. There was less fighting."

Senoir Aaron Rhame said, "My personel goal was to make the All-State team. Our goal was to win State. We had a good chance, but also, a good nucleus."

Sophomore Ed Recktenwall said, "We had to work to become very close. The team was awesome for the situation we were in. Next year we will be totally set on our goal, which we will accomplish!"

..Joe Durk



Varsity Boys Soccer Front Row: Dennis Odisho, Ed Recktenwall, Aaron Rhame, Freddie Rodriguiez, Marco Covarrubias, Pat Sanchez. **Row 2:** Todd Strom, Chris Ward, Aaron Reynlods, Tim O'Neal, Marc Morales, Omar Mercado, Cyris Gilbert. **Row 3:** Bob Billick, David Rodich, Chris Torres, Mark Gruchalski, Nate Fisher, Damon Wasilewski, Jeremy Barker, Coach Green.



JV Boys Soccer Team Front Row: Brandon Mowbray, Mat Fisher, Marshall Newbold. **Row 2:** Tim Lucas, Tony Cimbaljevich, Mike Odisho, Luke Weinman, John Michael Hutchins. **Row 3:** Nick Ladra, Jeremy O'Neal, Eddie Rodriguez, Toby Provens, Eugene Teso, Coach Vuko.



Junior Jeremy Barker and senior Omar Mercado fight over the ball with the Concord opponent. The Boys Varsity team finished out as 9-1-1.

If there was a "Hang Time" award in soccer, junior Jeremy Barker should have gotten it going head to head with a Concord player. Todd Strom, sophomore, looks on in amazement while racing towards his defender.







"There was more team unity this year than last!"It was hard doing back to back seasons!"
CyrisGilbert -'95



As senior Aaron Reynolds looks on, sophomore Todd Strom intercepts a pass form his Concord opponent who was about to score a goal.

Fancy Footwork

Finally, the girls got some recognition for their soccer abilities. Last year, the administrations of the area high schools decided to introduce girls soccer as a varsity and JV sport into the fall schedule.

Junior varsity player Becky Elliot,a sophomore, said," I was really glad to be on the first girls' soccer team at Portage. I started playing soccer two years ago, so it's not really that important to me as it is for other girls who've been playing their whole lives. And it should have been here a long time ago."

" I was so happy when they announced it (the arrival of girls' soccer) over the morning announcements. I thought it was about time we got a girls' soccer team. I mean all the other schools have them!" exclaimed senior Jennifer Rectenwall.

Junior Alicia Smith, who also played on junior varsity, said," I thought we did great! Especially considering that it was the first year, but a lot of the girls have played together for many years."

"We were intimidating! Our arch rival is Chesterton and we beat them!" said junior Jessica Mundell.

"The year on the whole ran smoothly because of the support and guidance we received from the athletic department, the Booster Club, other coaches and of course, all the fans and parents," said Coach Mrs. Jeanne Miotke.

... Joe Durk



JV Girls Soccer **Front Row:** Carissa Dixon, Dollie Boyle, Martha DaVaney, Jill Murray, Stacey Durr, Alicia Smith. **Row 2:** Stacy Porter, Angela George, Randi ritter, Amy Matthew, Jenny Vanderploeg, Becky Easton, Kathy Rea. **Row 3:** Asst. Coach Shelly Kwiatkowski, Tani Hensley, Shannon Liesch, Kelly Bonner, Kristen Zurcher, Joy Krejci, Head Coach Jeanne Miotke



Varsity Girls Soccer **Front Row:** Melissa Mongoven, Sherri Stamper, Jessica Mundell. **Row 2:** Mgn. Frances Fink, Stacy Porter, Yvonne Jaime, Kari Glans, Norma Diaz, Mandy Miotke, Michelle Olivencia, Jenny Rectenwall. **Row 3:** Asst. Coach Shelly Kwiatkowski, Kristine Campbell, Teresa Rossman, Abby Marcinkovich, Erika Murrow, Jill Ladra, Hannah Marcinkovich, Head Coach Jeanne Miotke.



Sophomore Melissa Mongoven steals the ball from a South Bend Adams opponent. A perennial state power in girls' soccer, Adams had experience that few teams could match. This game showed the Indians that they could compete well against such a team though it was their first loss in a record of 10-2-1.



Senior Hannah Marcinkovich goes for the corner kick at the South Bend Adams game in which Portage lost 2-1. Portage's record was 10-2-1.





"I thought it was about time we got a girls' soccer team!"

–Jen Recktenwall, '95



Senior Norma Diaz stretches in practice. Stretching was part of warming up, and helped the players to get ready to perform at their maximum in the games.

Shootin' High

When the Boys Varsity Basketball Team figured at the beginning of the season thay wanted to win sectionals, they were shootin' high and worked hard towards their goal to go the farthest they had in recent memory.

Junior Nick Wellman said, "We really wanted to win sectionals which we did because of the teamwork!"

Junior Tom Bonez said, "The season was great! During our regular season, we were a little down going 8-12. But we played tough competition and we were ready for sectionals when we beat Valparaiso, 42-38."

"We won sectionals and that was the high point of the season!" Said Gene Surprenant, junior.

Teamwork was the major contributing factor to the success of any season. But many of the boys exclaimed that their friendship controlled the destiny of the team.

"Friendship helped out a lot on the court because you have to know where every one is and not get into any fights!" Junior Nat Henson said.

Tom added, "If you can't get along with your friends, then it's hard to win any games."

The annual "Star Award" was shared by two people, performing remarkable feats to win the recognition. Senior Erik Taylor and sophomore Andy Berger received the award at the winter awards ceremonies which Erik and Andy dominated.

Nat concluded, "We just had a lot of ups and downs during the season!"

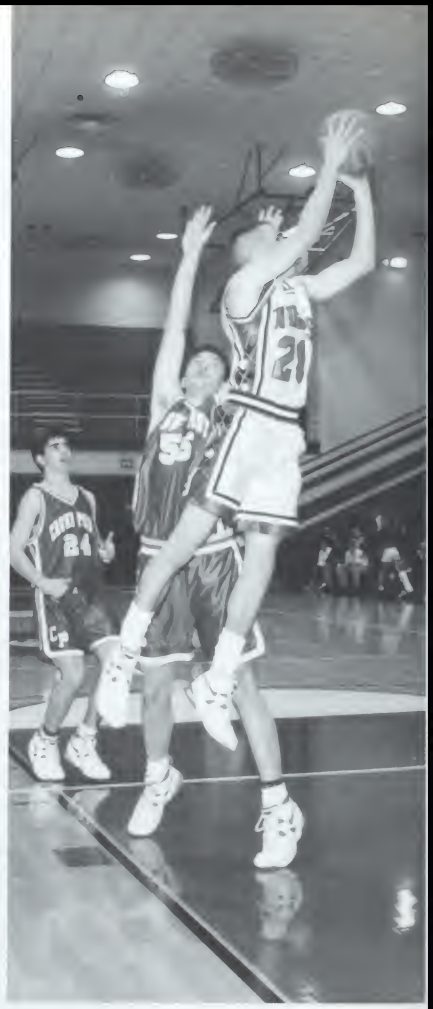
...Joe Dark

Varsity Record: 10-13

PHS		OPP
58	Calumet	49
44	Lake Central	47
56	Lake Station	46
54	Lowell	59
52	McCutcheon	78
76	Kankakee Valley	59
60	Hammond	76
55	Highland	73
41	Munster	62
57	M.C. Elston	71
59	Morton	61
62	Hammond Noll	44
71	Lafayette	90
63	Washington Twp.	58
42	Valparaiso	38
56	North Judson	74
	Conferences	
67	Crown Point	59
59	M.C. Rogers	58
89	Hobart	91
62	LaPorte	52
57	Chesterton	62
46	Valparaiso	41
38	Merrillville	72
	Sectionals	
42	Valparaiso	38

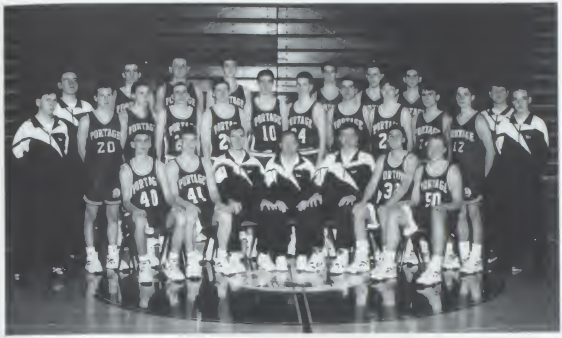


With a 62-52 win over LaPorte, junior s Erik Taylor and Tom Bonez charge towards the rebounded ball to help for the victory.

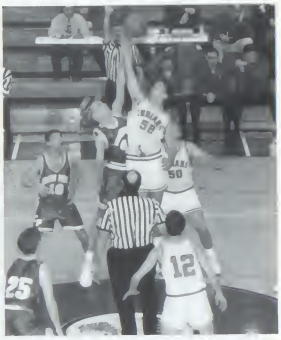


At the first conference match in which Portage won against Crown Point 67-59, junior Tom Bonez launches into the air for the slam.

Boys Varsity Basketball Front Row: Jason Hallenbeck, Matt Cullin, Coach Marvin Allison, Coach Greg Fisher, Coach Jay Hodges, Erik Taylor, Nat Henson. Row 2: Manager Brian Warchus, Jordan DeHaven, Shaun Wishnevski, Tom Bonez, Mike Pickering, Gene Surprenant, David Reynolds, Nick Wellman, Andy Berger, Scott McDonald, Mike Kreiger, Manager Chad Pio. Back Row: Manager John Billings, Doug Samuels, Mike Wilson, Nick Sheilds, Sonny Armato, Jeremy Lewis, Mike Wall, Manager Frank Crowley.

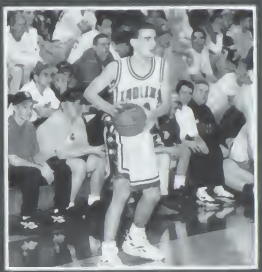


When the whistle blew and the game was started, junior Kevin DeVries tipped the ball to Portage to win the game. Portage's record for the season was 10-13.

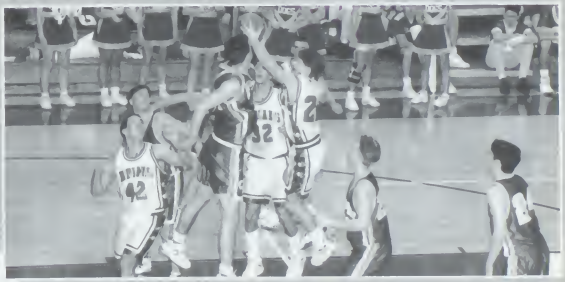




Junior Matt Cullin and sophomore Andy Berger discuss the game with referees for the team captain before the match up between Lake Central and Portage. The tribe lost 44-47.



"We won sectionals and that was the high point of the season!"
-Gene Surprenant, '96



Taking the ball to the limits, sophomore Andy Berger aided the tribe to a sectional reaching season. Berger was awarded the Sportsman of the year title for boys basketball.

Troubled Hoop Dreams

Ending the season with average records, the boys JV/freshman basketball team did, however, have their troubles.

"We really wanted to get everybody playing, contributing in a positive way and supporting the varsity team. But we really didn't have that many leaders on the team and that was extremely bad because we needed sombody who could take charge," said sophomore Jeremy Lewis.

"We were too much of friends. Nobody was man enough to criticize someone else," said Jordan DeHaven. "It was fun, but I also expected to win more games."

Many of the boys hoped to play in a league not of their own by trying to advance to JV or the varsity team for a game or two.

Jeremy added, "I wanted us to win and to start JV or just play a lot. I really wanted most of all to play a little varsity and I did that!"

"The team's goal was to improve our skills so we could compete well at the next level," said freshman Tony Racich.

"Playing basketball was fun once we got over our problems. Next year we *will* win a lot of games!" Jordan said.

Tony ended, "The season this year was a great learning expereince for everyone and even though our record wasn't the greatest, it was all good!!"

...Joe Durk



At the Portage/Hobart game, freshman Joe Tinnel "swishes" the ball, helping the freshmen win that game, leading to what the team called an "ok" season.



Keeping the ball away from the other team, freshmen Marc Tarpley and Brian Freeman struggle for the rebound as Joe Tinnel, freshman, observes and waits in concerns of helping.



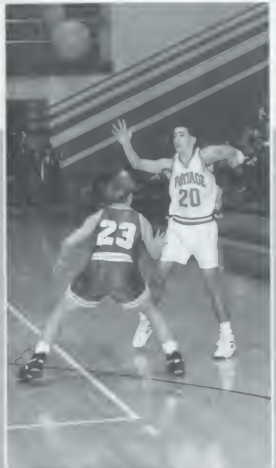
Taking the ball to the hoop limits, freshman Brian Freeman leaves all the other players in awe as he launches off the court.

Boys' Freshman Basketball—Front Row: Nick Ladra, Mike Martinez, Marc Tarpley, Brandon Mowbray, Jim DeWitt. Row 2: Johnny Lewis, Eric Reynolds, Pat Newton, Dan Borajas, Joe Tinnel, Dan Kaletta, Dan Walworth. Back Row: Coach Tom Sanidas, Cory Schnarr, Brian Freeman, Tony Racich, John Bailey, Anis Sheth, Coach Bob Mattix.

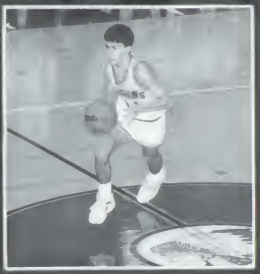


Catching the ball before it goes out of bounds, sophomore Nick Shields helped the JV tribe acheive the successful season that they all had dreamed of.





During the Andrean game, freshman Dan Walworth passes the ball off the top of the key as an opponent guards him with a watchful eye.



"The season was cool because all the guys were good friends on and of the court!"

-

Scott McDonald, '97

Trying to psych his Hobart opponent out, freshman Eric Reynolds guards his man in the first half of the game in which Portage won.



Learning to Motivate

The Varsity Girls' Basketball team gave themselves a lesson in self motivation this season. They learned what it takes to become successful.

"The season started off pretty rough. We had a lot of ups and downs during the mid-season. We did well at the end by pulling together, playing together and doing really well," senior Robynne Lute said.

Sophomore Cyndi Hatala said, "My favorite part of the season was winning the tip off tourney, because I thought we were going to have a really great season."

"We started out the season with ten people and by the end we had eight. In the end, we were not best friends, but we were friends!" said senior Kari Wiseman.

"At the end of the season, when a bunch of us moved up to play on the Varsity, all of the varsity players were really supportive of us. It made us feel really good," sophomore Heather Gish said.

Robynne laughed, "My goal for the season was to hit a three pointer, which I did and my mom gave me $20 for. I also tried to be available to be a team captain. Positive attitudes also helped everyone."

Junior Christy Ramian said, "The season was a real struggle with all of the complications, but in the end, I felt that it was all worth it."

Jenn Buergler

Varsity Record: 11-11

PHS		OPP	PHS		OPP
50	Highland	36	68	Morton	33
55	Andrean	40	62	Andrean	34
33	Chesterton	59	57	Lake Station	34
40	Crown Point	59	62	M. C. Rogers	42
52	Kankakee Valley	67	57	Lake Central	80
54	Merrillville	39	56	LaPorte	44
43	East Chicago	77	52	Wheeler	21
62	Gavit	18	57	Boone Groove	41
48	Lawrence North	57	37	Valparaiso	61
45	Harrison	65		**Sectionals**	
39	Ritter	48		2nd	
51	Hobart	53			
42	Valparaiso	70			





Above: At the height of competition, a fact of life is height advantage. That advantage allowed the Valparaiso defense to stop a Portage shot.

Varsity Girl's Basketball Counterclockwise: Kari Wiseman, Missy Fekete, Robynne Lute, Erika Murrow, Angie McWhirter, Cyndi Hatala, Christy Ramian, Mary Mazurek.









"Despite numerous setbacks during the season, we all eventually pulled together as a team."
-Robynne Lute, '95



After half-time seniors Kari Wiseman and Robynne Lute along with junior Angela McWhirter, help sophomores Korey Reynolds and Heather Gish.

A Winning Record

Some would think that the season was not as exciting as they wanted it to be, but it ran strong with teamwork and less stress.

Sophomore Korey Reynolds said, "The teamwork on the JV team was great. We all got along and when we did fight, we never took it on the court."

A major factor in the success of the season was friendship , considering that there were no major disputes between players on the court.

"Friendship made playing basketball easier with people whom you feel comfortable with," said freshman Shawna Carter.

Freshman Marcy Greer said, "When we fought, we didn't practice or play well. We were all pretty close and tried not to let arguments ruin our game."

"The team's goals were to beat Valparaiso. Portage never beats them! We were supposed to beat teams that we wrern't supposed to beat!" exclaimed Tonia Ernhart, sophomore.

"We really wanted to win the the Valparaiso tournament, by beating Valparaiso in the final game!" exclaimed Shawna.

Junior Jenn Buergler said her goal for the season was to not get injured, stay healthy and keep playing because "I always get hurt!"

Marcy added, "We did well; our record was 10-7. Sometimes we didn't play our best and lost games we shouldn't have!"

...Joe Durk



JV Girls' Basketball—Front Row: Korey Reynolds, Cristina Chandler, Heather Gish, Jennifer Buergler, Tiffany Jones, Tonia Ernhart. **Back Row:** Coach Darryl Wilder, Shawna Carter, Kelly Rich, Lisa Collins, Mandy Cichowlaz, Carina Simmons, Stephanie Clark.



Freshman Girls' Basketball—Front Row: Marcy Greer, Cheryl Flach, Sarah Johnson, Nicole Hall, Juleen Pezel, Jamie Kornacki **Row2:** Manager Natalie Balukar, Natalie Huffman, Emily Bauer, Kelley Ramian, Jennafer Hodge, Stephanie Huffman, Kim Hendley, Manager Tracey Brettt. **Back Row:** Head Coach Dawn Miller, Amber Hardin, Erika Radic, Natalie Fornari, Shawna Carter, Sara Fields, Beth Zolkowski, Asst. Coach Amy Levenda.

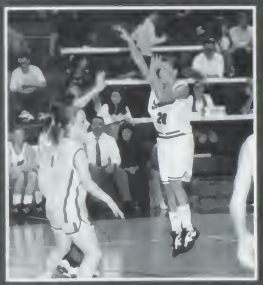


Freshamn Natalie Fornari puts back her rebound in the game against Valpo, to score two points. Fornari helped lead her team to victory by doing an excellent job rebounding all season.

Members of the Lady Lions' Basketball team listen intently to their coach, Dawn Miller. Athletes respect their coaches and realize they can learn a lot from them by listening.







"The Varsity players gave us a lot of support towards the end of the season!"
-Heather Gish, '97



Sophomores Korey Reynolds and Heather Gish share their friendship with junior Jennifer Buergler. Friends are a major part being on a team and help ease the stress of competition

Splashing to Success

Win! Win! Win! was all that was on the boys' swim team's minds as they splashed through a sensational season. Teamwork proved successful as four school records were broken with the help of many of the swimmers. Most of these accomplishments were set early in the season.

"We wanted to win as many dual meets as possible, hopefully win conference, sectional, and qualify as many as we could for the state meet," junior Jeromie Disser said.

Not only did setting goals help the team move along, but friendship also was a key determiner in the team's success. Tim Slamkowski, junior, said,"I feel if we didn't all get along, then that would have torn up the team."

Early morning practices, hard work and team unity helped the boys swim their way to the state meet where the team placed 32nd. Team members competed in five events. Seniors Rich Fowble and Chad Huffman placed sixth in diving and 25th in the breast stroke, respectivly. Not only did this add important points to the team's score, it also made a great memory for these two seniors, and it also revved up the juniors for next year.

After the last event had been completed, the boys' team had nothing to be ashamed of. Jeromie summed it up saying, "Next year I'm a senior, and I'll miss the coaches most. I have all the respect in the world for them, and I guess you could say I love them like friends. Coach Mundt, Coach Lowe, I love you both."

Varsity Record:9-3

PHS		Opp.	
W	Merrillville	L	
W	M.C. Rogers	L	Munster Relays
W	LaPorte	L	3rd
L	Valparaiso	W	Conference
L	Munster	W	3rd
W	Reno Central	L	Sectionals
W	Highland	L	3rd
L	Chesterton	W	State
W	Hobart	L	32nd
W	Lowell	L	
W	Crown Point	L	
W	Gavit	L	

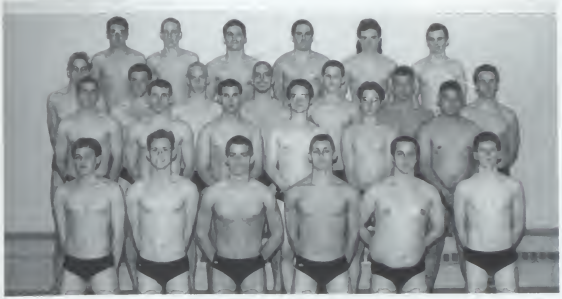




Rich Fowble, senior, dives into the pool for a first place victory. Rich advanced to the state swim meet where he placed sixth in diving.

Senior Chris Angle concentrates on his technique as he goes for the win. Chris placed third in the breast stroke during the sectional meet, which was held at LaPorte.

Boys' Swimming-Front Row: Mike Nemeth, Rich Fowble, George Ferguson, Brad Skafish, Brian Rogers, Norman Ford. Row 2: Chris Angle, Jeromie Disser, Scott Moehl, Adam Hatten, Ray Peda, David Czapla. Row 3: Chris Rogers, Chad Franks, Ben Hoffman, Bill Hoffman, Rich Ostertag, Chris Fruehwirth, David Warren. Back Row: Tim Bingham, Tim Slamkowski, Nathan Mundt, Dan Paniaguas, Donovan McKiddy, Charlie Fruehwirth.



Ryan Kegley, junior, prepares to make a splashless dive into the water. Five divers were on the team, and their scores could easily make or break a victory during a meet.





And they're off! During the season, start-offs like this were common as the team raced to the finish line. Twenty-five boys were on the team, each adding his own talents to make the year more successful.



"It was a fun season with lots of hard work!"
—Tim Slamkowski '96

Senior Donovan Mc Kiddy comes up forair as he focuses on the target: the finish line. Six seniors were part of the team this year, each adding their own memories, and each becoming part of the past as the season came to an end.



Swimmin' Women

Hard work, determination and a little sweat didn't scare the girls of the 1994-1995 swim team. They swam their way to numerous victories with the help of strong team unity and self motivation. Even though the team was victorious, the road wasn't always so smooth.

Junior Brandie Rootkie said, "We had a good season, but there were many obstacles that we had to work through. Like any normal team, we had our ups and downs."

Various pressures were placed on the team, either as a whole, or individually. Some include morning practices, beating a previous time, or learning the value of teamwork. To some, the pressures were sometimes intense. ". . .Mentally, there was way too much pressure in some way placed on each person," sophomore Cari Horne explained.

In order to be mentally prepared for each meet, new tactics were added to make relaxation easier. "We are using mental preparation this year. Things such as visualization and resting up with reduction in yardage before big meets will help the girls," Coach Mike Lipinski said.

Friendship also determined the team's attitude throughout the season. "Friendship played a key role in our team. Our team wouldn't work as well as we do if we didn't get along," Brandie explained.

Though some people thought the friendship was strong, others disagree. "During the season we all wanted to ring each other's neck. Lots of friction was built up between members of the team. Since the season was over, we get along better, especially since we don't have to look at each other at five in the morning," Cari said.

Throughout the season, many memories were recorded. Newcomer Kristen Levan, freshman, explains,"I enjoy sharing good and bad times with the team, being with all of my friends and seeing my improvements."

Heather Hostettler, senior, added, "I will miss the togetherness of the team and all the hard work that I put into the team."

. . . Sarah McEwan

Varsity Record: 12-2

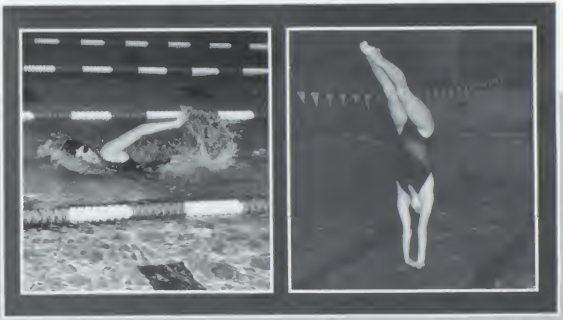
PHS	OPP.
W	LaPorte
W	Hobart
W	Lowell
W	Merrillville
W	Lafayette Jefferson
L	Valparaiso
W	Highland
W	M.C. Rogers
W	Bishop Noll
2nd	Valpo Relays
W	Crown Point
W	Hammond High
W	Chesterton
2nd	LaPorte Diving
W	Rensselaer
L	Lake Central
3rd	Duneland Conference
3rd	Sectionals



Dana Rogers, junior, prepares to splash her way to a first place victory. Dana, along with the other divers, could drastically change the team's score in neck in neck competition.

Girl' Swim:—Front Row: Amber Bogold, Natalie Huffman, Beth Klakoski, Helena Golarz, jennifer Lawrence, Dana Rogers. Row 2: Jackie VanVleet, Stephanie Huffman, Lauren McCall, Cari Horne, Emily Bauer, Brandy Rootkie. Row 3: Connie Dicken, Sonia Soto, Corrine Cleland, Amanda Siroky, Megan Kelly, Missy Bedrova. Row 4: Heather Hostettler, Amy Dominick, Theresa Hazzard, Bridget Harsh, Kristen Levan, Barb Laczi, Heather Busch. Back Row: Coach Mike Lipinski, Krissy Manion, Vicki Levan, Katy Ostertag, Jenny Siminski, Katie Siminski, Jen Bauer, Scott Valpatic.







Heather Hostettler, senior, concentrates on receiving a first place in the breaststroke. Eight seniors were on the team this season, and many broke various school records.

Balancing Elegance

As many gymnasts exclaimed that it was by far the best season in memory, there was the usual competition that any sport has. But through it all, the gymnastics team achieved their goals and balanced their elegance.

"Our goals were to practice hard, do the best we could and support one another," said senior Jill Karner.

"Basically, we forced on preparing ourselves for the big meets. We worked on it by performing consistently throughout all of our easier meets," said Laura Weeks, who broke three metatarsals early in the season.

As in any and every sport, friendship was truly an ingredient of the success of the season.

"The friendship on our team was a major factor. We were together so much that we had to get along in order to accomplish al of our goals," said Michelle Sparks, sophomore.

Senior Cassie Richart said, "In order to be on the team, the friendship had to be *major* part of the team. You receive most of your motivation from your team."

Laura added, "My teammates were some of my closest friends. That just seemed so natural because in training for gymnastics, encouragement is the key. The genuine support for teammates naturally creates great friendships!"

The annual MVP award went to junior Nikki Gass. Nikki qualified to go down to state and placed ninth.

With the memories of what the team called a "blissful" season, they showed their elegance once more.

.. Joe Durk

Varsity Record: 6-2

PHS		OPP	
W	LaPorte	L	Marion Invite
W	Hobart	L	3rd
W	M.C.Rogers	L	DAC
W	Crown Point	L	4th
W	Merrillville	L	Sectionals
W	Lowell	L	4th
L	Valparaiso	W	
L	Chesterton	W	



Senior Cassie Richart attempts to grab the lower of the uneven bars at the LaPorte/Portage meet, which Portage won. The team's record was 6-2.



Showing her elegance, Cari Taylor, senior, competes at the Chesterton meet. Cari's gracefulnes helped the team balance a successful season.

Gymnastics—**Front Row:** Coach Cassie Riley, Kim Dudek, April Samuels, Nikki Floyd, Jacklyn Repay, Tessie Frechette, Amber Hammond, Coach Jodi Taylor. **Row 2:** Jill Karner, Laura Weeks, Cari Taylor, Cassie Richart. **Back Row:** Gia Fornari, Michelle Sparks, Amber Riley, Nikki Gass.



Senior Laura Weeks gets some helpful advice from Coach Cassie Riley in warm- ups. Laura broke her foot later in the season while performing on the beam.





With the help of her flawless floor routines, junior Nikki Gass placed ninth after qualifying for state. Nikki was a big booster of the team that will be recorded.



"The season was great because the coaches really understood how we felt and kept pushing us to do our best!"
-Nikki Floyd, '97



Sophomores Amber Riley and Michelle Sparks goof around for encouragement before the LaPorte meet. Being friends on the team is important, but competition contends with the relationship.

Wrestlers Brawl with Coaches

Intense! Determined! Successful! These were the words students used to describe the eighth ranked wrestlers in the state.

The wrestlers were 10-0 in the regular season, winning their third straight Duneland Athletic Conference Title. The Indians also won their fifth consecutive Sectional Title and their third in a row Regional Title. The guys failed to repeat a Semistate victory, falling only second to Mishawaka, but ending up sending six wrestlers to State.

Seniors Tony Alaniz, Glenn Ballor, Paul Chandler and Jason Dudley qualified to go to State, along with junior Chris Spurrier and sophomore Leroy Vega. Paul, Chris, and Leroy placed among those that went to state.

Leroy said,"The thing that I could have done better was work harder and win at State." He placed third, losing only once to a wrestler from Mater-Dei High School, finishing the season 39-1.

Whether it was for intense practice or just goofing around, the wrestlers "brawled" with their coaches, Mr. Larry Tharp and Mr. Ed Pendowski, making for an interesting season!

"My biggest achievement was to wrestle Varsity and make weight. I had to drop from 148 to 126!" exclaimed Izzy DeJesus, sophomore.

With 30 wins and eight loses, Glenn finished the season seventh at State. Glenn satisfied his vengeance by winning the rematch between him and a Valparaiso wrestler.

The Varsity record was 10-0, while the JV record was 14-1. All together, the team had gotten three time DAC Championships, five sectional championsips and three time regional championships with 29 straight dual meet victories.

Senior Roger Peele said, "The team's biggest accomplishment was winning the DAC for the third year in a row and winning Sectionals and Regionals again. We placed second at Semistate and did well at State."

Whether it's wrestling every day or working harder in the off season, the team is expected to come back strong next year!

... Derinda Smith

Varsity Record: 10-0

PHS	OPP	
31 Merrillville	25	Kokomo Invitational
59 Laporte	03	1st
73 M. C. Rogers	00	Chesterton Duals
33 Valparaiso	22	1st
40 Chesterton	18	DAC
45 Calumet	24	1st
57 Hammond	12	Culver Military
56 M. C. Elston	15	1st
57 Hobart	09	**Sectionals**
49 Crown Point	12	1st
Tournaments		**Regionals**
L. C. Harvest Classic		1st
3rd		**Semi-State**
Calumet Classic		2nd
3rd		**State**
		8th



After a hard working season, Portage came out on top with this first victory against Merrillville. Senior Ian Pittman helped get the 10-0 season record. The Portage/Merrillville score was 31-25, the Indians on top!



Paul Chandler, Tony Alaniz, Leroy Vega, Glenn Ballor, Chris Spurrier and Jason Dudley are the six wrestlers form the Indian tribe to go to state. Among these, Leroy, Glenn and Chris placed.

Wrestling Front Row: Mgr. Elizabeth Statton, Mgr. Leacia Circle. **Row 2:** Steve Cook, Paul Chandler, Jason Dudley, Izzy DeJesus, Leroy Vega, Tony Alaniz, Juan Hinojosa, Jake Warner, David Chavez. **Row 3:** Tim Bloir, Ian Pittman, Chris Spurrier, Casey Palichuk, Ryan Lang, Ryan Bonner, Matt Atherton, Roger Peele, Glenn Ballor, Tony Ballor. **Row 4:** Mgn. Cathy Merritt, Steve Lugo, Chris Roman, Mike Jones, Stephan Kinlaw, Chris Scheriff, Aaron Branham, Jose Torres, Adam Alaniz, Matt Movre, Mgr. Sherri Stamper. **Row 5:** Coach Ed Pendowski, Coach Chris Condo, Mgr. Mindi Gilbert, Arthur Torres, Eric Erway, Joe Mrak, Dustin Jones, Todd Griffey, Zack Murray, David Torres, Mgr. Irene DeJesus, Coach Larry Tharp.





"My biggest accomplishment was to wrestle Varsity and make weight."
-Izzy DeJesus, '97



Cheerleading a New Sport

When the IHSAA announced that cheerleading would become a sport, many girls agreed with the decision.

"Cheerleading is a sport because we have uniforms and fund-raisers. We do everything the other sports do except we only practice twice a week," said freshman Leacia Circle.

"Poms is a sport because we had very enduring and agonizing physical and aerobic workouts," added Heather Andryuk.

Junior Valentine Torrez had a separate idea, "Cheerleading and Poms would be sports if the coaches would have let us compete in the competitions."

Many of the other girls felt that if they were in another sport, that cheerleading wasn't a sport. But if you were only on the squad, then it was a sport.

With that debate going on, the team unity was still so strong for the girls on the squads.

Alicia Smith and Jessica Mundell, juniors, both felt that "everyone on the team was so close. We have been friends forever because we were so really close."

Leacia added to the end that the transition from middle school to high school cheerleading was very different because "you get more recognition here. I mean you are not just a bunch of loud mouthed girls screaming and yelling, you have more to do and are more appreciated!"

...Joe Durk



Many of the cheerleaders endure many physical accomplishments, which take a lot of aerobic classes to do as sophomore Brooke Brennan stretches her legs as far as she can.



Totally in sync to the music, the Pom Pons were very articulate in their performances as they show here before the game.



Senior Brandy Graham and junior Alicia Smith stand at poise as they encourage the crowd to cheer for their favorite team.

At the winter homecoming game during half-time, the Poms performed their routine that they had worked twice a week, every week.





Cheering their team on, freshmen Leacia Circle, Kelly McGill and Mary Brown accomplished their dreams by making the squad in high school. Leacia said, "You get more recognition."



Varsity Cheerleading—Front Row: Trina Schaefer, Jill Hudson, Cari Taylor. **Row 2:** Brandy Graham, Gia Fornari, Anne Crockette, Theresa Wilkins. **Back Row:** Jessica Mundell, Laura Weeks, Tonia Jarvis, Tina Fingerhoot.



JV Cheerleading—Front Row: Booke Brennan, Lindsay Klisiak, Kelly Charbonneau. **Row 2:** Sydney Hodsden, Jessica Reid, Lani Kelly. **Back Row:** Michelle Sparks, Breanna Lees, Amber Riley.





With the help of fund-raisers to buy new uniforms, sophomore Meagan Gerkin proudly shows all her talent and beauty in a half-time performance.

As seniors Josy Young and Alan Kane hold up loud and cheerful senior Tonia Jarvis, senior Shaun Conners waits in the back to catch her if she plummets back.



Pom Pons—Front Row: Gena Ortiz, Valentine Torrez, Wendy Gilbert, Delores Dedina, Heather Andryuck, Kelly Clouse. **Row 2:** Jill Karner, Victoria Nikonchuk, Stephanie Collins, Tiffany Menderabel, Jeanna Lopez, Amity McKiddy. **Back Row:** Jessica Provins, Julie Giancola, Tiffany Dillard, Kelly Fallon, Trishia Swindle, Sarah Mitchell, Megan Sedan, Autumn Hyde.



Lifters—Front Row: Mike Rake, Russ Simola. **Row 2:** Shaun Conners, David Bollinger, Alan Kane. **Back Row:** Brandon Miller, Justin Smith, Josh Young.

Rounding the Bases

With a somewhat dreary start, the varsity baseball team ended the season by making it all the way to semi-state. Yet another example of how many records were broke in the school year, with friendship a major factor in the success of the season.

"Everyone was really close. When people say age is a real factor in any kind of friendship, they are wrong!! Everybody was in different grades and we got along great!" Said junior Sonny Armato.

Junior Nick Wellman added, "Nobody had any hard feelings toward each other! Everyone was pretty close."

As always, the players credited their coach, Mr. Tom Levondowski, for helping pull the team together- though thick and through thin!!

"Coach Lev always gets to be a big help in the season. Every year, he comes up with new ways to help us and we succeed by those ways," said Sonny.

Junior Tom Bonez agreed, "Coach always works with us in a positive way. He will tell us what we are doing wrong, what we're doing right and tell us how to improve ourselves."

When in the beginning of the season, there were doubts in people's minds of how far the team could go. After everything, the players put their hats on straight and slid head first all the way to semi-state.

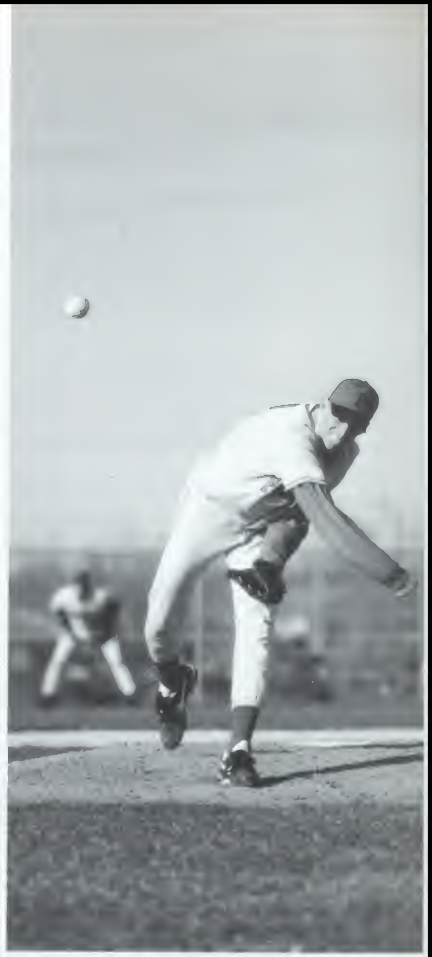
Joe Durk

Varsity Record: 8-1

PHS	OPP
Hammond	Rogers
Roosevelt	Chesterton
Lake Station	Merrillville
Munster	Hobart
Kankakee Valley	Andrean
Valparaiso	LaPorte
Lake Central	St. Joseph's
Rogers	Crown Point
Chesterton	Morton
Merrillville	Culver Military
Hobart	**Sectionals**
Wirt	
LaPorte	**Regionals**
Crown Point	
Valparaiso	**Semi-State**
Horace Mann	



Junior Jeremy DeHaven stretches to catch the throw to first base for the out. Jeremy played behind senior Daymon Johnston. Both boys exhibited outstanding efforts while playing first base.



Junior Jason Hallenbeck releases a hard thrown pitch to a nervous batter. Jason's arm played a big role in the success of the Indians especially during the Regional and Semi-State games.

Varsity Baseball Front Row: Manager Jason Falkowski, Jordan DeHaven, Tom Bonez, Mike MacDonald. Row 2: Dave Ortiz, Jeremy DeHaven, Nick Rajski, Joe Kovats. Row 3: Coach Levandowski, Danny Schultz, Ryan McGuffy, Adam Bell, Scott Curran. Back Row: Sonny Armato, John Lopez, Jason Hallenback, Paul Payne, Daymon Johnston, Coach St. Jemaine.



Junior Tommy Bonez rips one down the first base line. Tommy batting efforts helped to enable the Indians to be successful.





Coach Tom Levandowski confers with team member David Ortiz. Ortiz not only hit many homeruns on the baseball field but earned the title of Mr. Football by scoring touchdowns on the football field.



"As the season progressed, the team came together and it showed especially in our enthusiasm."
-Roger Peele '95

Junior John Lopez rounds second base during one of the home baseball games. Lopez was sidelined with an ankle injury during football but recovered.



Welcome to the Big Leagues

After many years in little league, the boys have finally hit the big league.

The boys' JV/freshman baseball teams did well, although they thought that they could have done better.

"We didn't do as good as we had hoped for. We wanted to accomplish a lot more than what we did," said sophomore Carl Buergler. " We had fun, but it would have been more fun to win *all* the games."

Sophomore Tim Pirowski added, "We did awesome. All of my friends play on the team and that just makes it all cooler! Being friends with everyone helped. I mean, no one hates anyone on the team."

As in any sport, one key to winning games is the coaches. Good coaches can mean a good season.

"The coaches were great. They taught us by talking to us instead of yelling. They cared a great deal about baseball, as well as us. We learned so much from them!" exclaimed Carl.

"The coaches are great. It's cool because they are so young. They understand us!" said Tim.

Freshman Blake Wiseman, who played on the freshman team, summed it up best. "The season was the greatest because all the guys were great friends and nobody hated anybody. There were no grudges or anything against anyone!"

...Joe Durk



Freshman Baseball—Front Row: Blake Wiseman, unidentifiable, unidentifiable. **Row 2:** unidentifiable, Pat Szotisk, Jon Salyer, unidentifiable, unidentifiable, Mark Heckman, Manager Stephanie Huffman. **Back Row:** unidentifiable, Josh Vaudt, unidentifiable, Chris Kubeke, unidentifiable, unidentifiable, Coach Marvin.



JV Baseball—Front Row: Steve Kinder, Steve Cook, Leroy Vega, John Maliziola. **Row 2:** Vern Sasser, Tim Pirowski, Jason Hendrickson, Stephen Scheier, Shaun Wishnevski, Omar Mendez. **Back Row:** Charlie Greer, Carl Buergler, EZ Olmo, Matt Fisher, Pete Shaw, Carlo Ernandes, Coach Jeff Smith.



There goes the pitch! Sophomore Pete Shaw stands at poise, ready to hurl the ball down to his Valpo opponent for a win over the rival.

With a powerful hit to the left outfield, sophomore Steve Cook tries to help the Indians as much as he can by giving the team his 110% n his baseball experience.

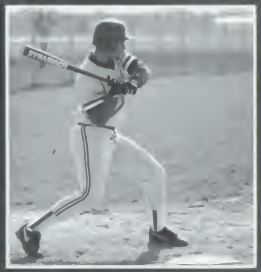


Swinging into the dirt to get the ball, sophomore Steve Scheier successfully hits the ball into the field for a fly ball. Portage unfortunately went on to lose the game.





Feeling unbeatable, sophomore Shaun Wishnevski eyes the ball for a hit to the outfield. Shaun has played "Indian Baseball" for the past two years.



"They (coaches) cared a great deal about baseball, as well as us. We learned so much from them!"
Carl Buergler, '97

Sophomore Matt Fisher pounds the ball for a base run, which helped the Indians win the game against Hobart. Matt, along with all the other players, had the option of playing Little League ball or school ball.



No Comparison

Four bases, a bat and a ball. Sounds like baseball, doesn't it? WRONG!! That's the misconception some people have about softball. The girls who played felt so, too.

"Softball is a very hard sport, not even to be compared with baseball!" argued junior Angie McWhirter. "But what made the game fun was that everyone on the team was such great friends with everyone else. In order to play better, you have to be friends with everybody on the team. They say 'unity is the key to winning softball.'"

On an opposing view, junior Missy Fekete said, "Our team didn't get along all that good at first. We tried to, but just couldn't until the very end."

Most of the girls agreed that the coaches were the main influence in helping the players pull together at the end.

Senior Kari Wiseman said, "Coach Mattix was really a big help. He taught us to do things right. Coach Wilder helped us with our problems. Together they helped the team extensively!"

Angie added, "They were just always there whenever we had rough times. They really kept the team together. They taught us new things every year. You just need good coaches to win at any sport, and ours were great!"

Though thick and thin, the softball teams had an excellent season in anybody's books, regardless of their problems on the field, which really didn't show.

...Joe Durk



Varsity Softball–Front Row: Salina Viera, Katie Hatala, Kari Wiseman, Crystal Cannon. **Row 2:** Kelly Knapp, Missy Fekete, Tina Shaw, Angie McWhirter, Shana Pollock, Cyndi Hatala. **Back Row:** Jamie Hamilton, Mary Mazurek, Kelly McAllister, Manager Andrea Cardenas, Heather Gapinski, Cristie Lovings.





Senior Jamie Hamilton hammers the ball down to her opponent in this game which Portage won. Portage's win here was just the start of a big sweep for the tribe.

After bunting the ball for a quick run to first base, sophomore Kim Gorgei used her 'Baby' bat to try and give the Indians as much as she could for the success of the triumphant season. Kim had the best batting average for the JV team of 5:12.

With an unsuccessful swing by sophomore Cyndi Hatala that might have given Portage the leading edge at the Vaparaiso game, the varsity team lost by a grueling score of 19-4.



After a two run score at the Portage/Merrillville game, sophomore Mary Mazurek steps over homeplate. Mary's run helped the tribe win the game, 16-7.





As she rounds the bases in hoping to beat the ball, freshman Trish Richart accomplished a lot in the game against Valparaiso in which Portage won, 15-5.



"Our team didn't get along all that well at the beginning."

-Missy Fekete, '96

After many grueling practices and disageements between the players, the softball team stayed atop that big mound with a tremendous season. Junior Angie McWhirter said it best, "Unity is the key to winning softball!"



Raising a Racquet

With over twenty five girls on the tennis team, it was the one of the most populous teams in memory of the girls, and it paid off big.

"We had a pretty decent season. We had a very rough start with a couple injuries. We learned from those mistakes and formed a closer team towards the end," said Annette Munoz, junior.

Junior Erika Murrow added, "Our season was as good as could be expected. Our team goal was to finish five hundred or better, which we did because my win at the M.C. Rogers match put us there. We had a 2-3 set tie-breaker and I won my match, putting us over our goal."

Many of the girls thought their coaches were the key factor in the success of their season.

"Coach Mason gave us so much advice to improve our playing and helped us with any problems. He gave so many ideas and told us to practice very hard over the summer," Erika said.

Annette agreed, "The coaches helped a lot in many ways, like on form and just our attitudes. They taught us the correct way to play, and that was a big help!"

Erika concluded, "It was fun playing tennis. I'll really miss the seniors, but next year we will work very hard and win!"

...Joe Durk



JV Girls Tennis—Front Row: Megan Husted, Jesseme Bysong, Jackie Rattray, Derinda Smith, Kim Spoa, Jessica Koonz, Kathy Rea, Katty Balas. **Back Row:** Manager Patricia Muniz, Jessica Barniville, Brenda Manion, Jill Murray, Jenny Urchick, Stephanie Iwan, Abby Kay, Laura Owen, Stacy Porter, Manager Michelle Harman.



Varsity Girls Tennis—Front Row: Dawn Fessler, Jessica Tilford, Dana Floyd, Sarah Murphy, Erika Murrow, Kim LeHockey, Kara Kitchell. **Back Row:** Melissa Mongoven, Kim Jakob, Natalie Vasquez, Darcie Newberry, Annette Munoz, Liz Cantonelli.



Senior Dana Floyd gets ready to hammer the ball down to her opponent in a match. Floyd has played tennies all four years she's been at Portage.

Just before a meet, sophomores Jill Murray and Derinda Smith snack up on food, hoping to get some carbohydrates for that extra energy to win their matches.



Freshman Katty Balas attempts to successfully serve the ball over the net at a meet which the Indians won. With over 25 girls on the team, the season was one that was very eventful.





As she gets ready to do her stuff by smashing the ball back over the net to her Valparaiso opponent, freshman Stephanie Iwan helped the tribe go to a successful season.



"I hope everyone works hard over summer to come back for a successful season."
-Erika Murrow, '96



Sophomore Kim Spoa works on her lob and smile at the ball during one of the practices.

Winged Feet

Through many obstacles and hurdles (no pun intended), the girls' track team pulled together to win a successful season, which was also some of the runners'.

"The season was the best I can recall in my mind because everyone helped each other out when ever we were in a tough spot. The season was fun, also. I got to know more people and become better friends with the people I had known before," said sophomore Meagan Gerkin.

"We made a lot of goals at the beginning and accomplished most of them. Not all of them, but most of them," said Jenene Stafford, junior.

When the team did plan their goals, they also planned on having friendship factor to the success of the season.

Meagan added, "It was great being friends from the beginning because it helps you go out and not have to worry about beating anybody in the race and having hard feelings. I mean not only is track a team sport, but the individual wins make the team win."

Freshman Jenny Szabo said, " I didn't know many girls on the team at the beginning of the season, but at the end I had found some life long friends!"

Meagan concluded by saying that her most memorable moment of the season was probably shared by all the other girls, which was winning the DAC.

...Aanda Falck
...Joe Durk

Varsity Schedule

PHS	OPP	
		Lee Wallace Invite
	Lake Central	
	Merrillville	Highland Invite
	LaPorte/Crown Point	
	Chesterton/Rogers	DAC
	Hobart/Valparaiso	
		Sectionals
Purdue Trials		
		Regionals
Purdue Finals		
		State



Springing off the ground for a perfect winin the 100m hurdles, freshman Jenny Szabo attempts to win her race.



As she gives her team the only strength she has left in her, freshman April Samuels crosses the finish line victorious.

Girls' Track—Front Row: April Samuels, Tessie Frechette, Christina Chandler, Jill Kozrowski, Mandy Miotke, Denise Lilly. Row 2: Sarah Newhall, Marcy Greer, Michelle Batista, Lisa Levenson, Megan Gerkin, Becky Easton, Missy Fejes. Row 3: Angie Zolkowski, Gia Fornari, Missy Lilly, Erica Radic, Emily Frechette, Kim Cipich, Cheryl Flach, Sherri Stamper, Julie Mason. Row 4: Yvette Menendez, Jenny Szabo, Dollie Boyle, Sydney Hodsden, Yvonne Jaime, Jenny Szegal, Sarah Johnson, Elizabeth Bunker. Back Row: Joy Krejci, Katy Ostertag, Kristy Dec, Jetente Stafford, Becky Pelke, Mandy Cichowlaz, Natalie Fornari, Courtney Simmons, Mindy Witt.

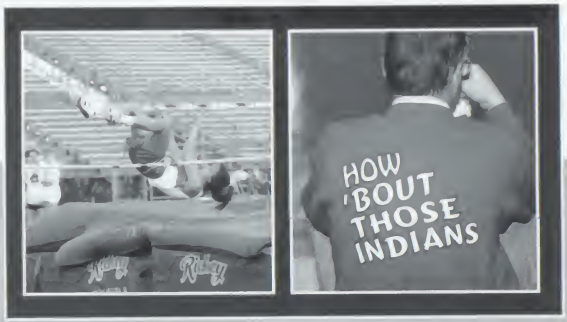


Freshman Tessie Frechette and her sister, senior Emily, race against each other in the competition. Tessie and Emily were just one of the three pairs of sisters on their track team.

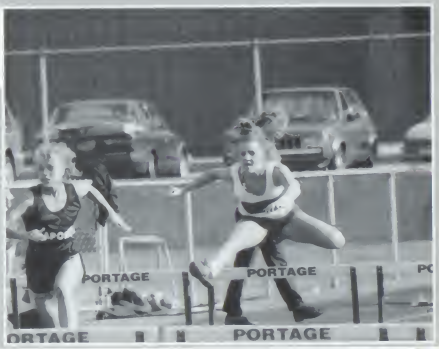




While in the shot-put ring, senior Sherri Stamper broke many school records. Stamper threw farther than any girl ever on the team as she surpassed the school record with a 5'12" throw in probably her most eventful year.



With an extra 110% to give to her team, senior Denise Lilly attempts to hurdle her way to the first place spot.



A Long Season

While the boys complained that the track season was way too long, the wait for the season was well worth it.

"We ended up third in the conference and losing only once to Valparaiso. It was a fun learning experience for everyone," said junior Ricky Littlefield. "We bonded well!"

Sophomore Jeremy Lewis added that a big influence the success of the season was that once again, the coaches encouraged everyone and that was the greatest!

As in most of the spring sports, bad weather halted some of the meets and practices.

"There was this one meet that was canceled because of cold, rainy weather. The bad thing about all of it was that we were all so psyched up for the meet. It was so weird how things turned out!" exclaimed Ricky.

"We have a very promising varsity team next year that will do tremendously well," said Jeremy.

Ricky said that his most memorable moment of the once defeated season was one that was shared by most of the team as well. "We were planning a long, long distance practice when good old Coach (Bill) Wilke decided to take us to the Dunes for an enlightening game of 'Capture the Flag'. We were getting ready to go when we couldn't find a fellow runner. We searched the whole park only to find him sitting on the bus!"

...Joe Durk

Varsity Record: 6-1

PHS		OPP
73	Merrillville	54
76	Crown Point	51
72	LaPorte	55
99	M.C. Rogers	28
96	Chesterton	31
106	Hobart	21
53	Valparaiso	74

Renseselear Invite
1st

Chesterton Relays
1st

Valparaiso 9/10 Invite
2nd

DAC
3rd

Sectionals
1st

Regionals
2nd



Senior Donovan McKiddy pole vaults his way up to the top against Hobart to help Portage win, 106-21. This win was just one along the way as the tribe had a 6-1 dual meet season record.



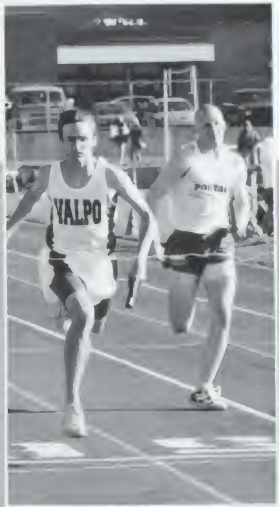
In the sandbox he goes! Senior Dave Skolak goes for the longest jump as he plummets to the sand, leading Portage to a 73-54 victory over Merrillville.

Boys' Tracks—Front Row: Ken Timm, Adam Tuttle, Jason Mazek, Steve Lugo, Dan Shirley, Mike Rake, Alan Kane, Tom Taylor, Tim Lucas. Row 2: Donavon McKeldy, Rob McKay, Nick Morris, Mike Foley, Johnny Lewis, Eric Reynolds. Row 3: Chris Westerkamp, Ruben Perez, Tim Mulvihill, Brian Baugh, Ricky Lottlefield, Dave Newton, Brian Krac, Anthony Subasch. Row 4: Nick Munoz, Justin Sawochka, Steve Barnes, Jeff McKee, Ryan Kegley, Tim Calati, Jeff Jain. Back Row: William Rajski, Jason Skolak, Frank Estig, Alex Lutzel, David Skolak, Dave Warren, Jeremy Lewis, Coach John Kappes.



Hopping over the hurdles, junior Jason Skolak tries for the win as freshman Johnny Lewis races behind. Jason won a second in the event, helping Portage win.





Sprinting in the 100 meter dash, sophomore Jeremy Lewis attempts to go for the gold but falls short only to his Valparaiso opponent.



"I enjoyed being on the team with such fine athletes."

-Ryan Gabey, '96

Taking off after the gun shot, junior Nick Morris leads the pack at the starting line. Nick said that he will miss the seniors who helped him so much in all his track seasons.



Group Records

Junior Cheryl Banke fixes the Publication's printer to pump out a bi-weekly Pow Wow. Being on one of the three Publication staffs is very improtant to the school, as well a hard working organization.





At the Christmas Festival, the 1994-1995 Choraliers perform their glamorous and delightful melody.



Seniors Jenny Lesko, Charity Marsh and Jen Wilson let their music fly to the skies as they and their fellow band members perform a salute to the stars with the song from "Star Wars."

Organizations are important parts of high school. It seems that for each interest, there is a special organization. By being involved in clubs and organizations, students are able to fit in easier with people of similar interests, find something important in school besides classes and learning, and most of all, have fun.

PHS has a world-class student council with one of the largest memberships in the world. Though few students know it, all are members of the council and all students are involved in its activities. Through the council, activities such as homecoming, dances and the ever-popular ping-pong tournament are held and open to each student. Each year, the entire student body can participate in electing officers for the council, which represents all students through groups such as the Student Council Advisory Team.

Other organizations and clubs represent other facets of the student body. Clubs exist for foreign language students and for vocational students. Clubs address environmental issues and spiritual ones. Clubs such as the National Honor Society or the Quill and Scroll even recognize student achievement. Some of the most talented students involve themselves with organizations such as the Choraliers or the PROTC program — both groups requiring their members to meet and maintain standards for their memberships.

All organizations at school are sponsored by faculty members who carry their interest in students past the end of the school day. Without the efforts of the faculty sponsors and students who believe school doesn't end at 2:35, the "fun" part of PHS would be just a fantasy. Yet the fantasy is a reality and the memories are part of our records.



During one of their award-winning performances, the girl's glee voices try to bring warmth to the audience. The girls struggled hard throughout the year for a perfect harmony.































Recording The March



Freshman/Junior JROTC—**Front Row:** Melissa Lowe, Mandy Shultz, Abe Pomales, Jacquelyn Rattray, Anthony Covelli, Erin Daege, Doris Perez. **Back Row:**Paul Brajcki, Jason Attinger, Gregory Mays, Ken Driver, Terry Oslizlo, Sean Davis-Cohen, Randall Bryant, James Daniel.



JROTC—**Front Row:** Miquel Gonzalez, Douglas Walstra. **Row 2:** Sara Dexter, Chad Wright, Louis Dominquez, Shannon Russum, Regina Muth. **Back Row:** Adriana Perez, Jennifer Juhasz, Shawn Russum, John Ray, Kelly Creech, April Russ.



JROTC—**Front Row:** Chris Espinoza, Brandi Jones, Sarah Natalie. **Row 2:** Mike Jackson, Nora Cuellar, Alice Russ, Shannon Gillie, Chris Chapman, Jaimmie Keeling, Jake Warner. **Back Row:** Ryan Parker, Jeff Camp, Robert Rossman, Chuck Trembly, Chad Thompson, Martin Knight, Dave Sultzer, Paul Jarrell.





At the Homecoming Parade, JROTC members matched proudly to commemorate 100 years of Portage High. The squad consisted mainly of juniors and sophomores, but there were incoming freshmen and graduating seniors.





Freshmen Nicole Villarreal and Randall Bryant do their physical training during class. In JROTC students must be fit for their performances to succeed in everything they do.

Juniors Dennis Oslizlo and Kelly Creech concentrate on their chem com class discussion. Cadets must be uniform throughout the year to keep up the tradition of JROTC. The squad is also responsible for putting the flags up every morning.







Sophomores Ken Driver and Greg Mays II do sit-ups during their physical training course of JROTC. Physical training is a very important part of this program.

Juniors Dennis Oslizlo and Sean Davis-Cohen of Color Guard are doing a ceremony during the National Anthem at a varsity basketball game.

Juniors Mandy Shultz, April Russ, Steve Winicky and Anthony Covelli of Color Guard do a ceremony at a basketball game. The Color Guards did ceremonies at inductions, varsity basketball and football games.



Medieval Club: **Front Row:** Stephanie Santos, Teri Cressan, Kate Crumb, Erik Alsman, Shawn Stutler, Shawn Pooly, Erica Lund, Jennifer DePaula. **Row 2:** Regina Muth, Amanda Hise, Sharon Strickland, Becky Clay, Michael David, Dawn Pappas, Heather Danielewice, Kathy Ostrander, Kris Hasselgren, Mr. Jason Cope. **Row 3:** Keri-Ann Baldridge, Jeremy Kaiser, Erik Barthel, Larry Morrow, Heath Hitchcock.



Science Club: **Front Row:** Stephanie Markos, Katy Ostertag. **Row 2:** Karl Cheng, Phil Grigalanz, Luke Weinman, Izzy DeJesus, Tim Nush. **Row 3:** Mrs. Pat Strawbridge. **Row 4:** Michelle Cain, Alisa Tarry, Michele Easton. **Row 5:** Mike Hatala, Rick Morgan, Eric Sarreno, Derek Hart. **Row 6:** Anrea Caradnas, Stacey Durr, Louis Varner, Chris Psihogios, Mike Kelly.



Watching intently, junior Shawn Stutler prepares a presentation about the different kinds of clothing that was worn during the Medieval times. Shawn is the president of the Medieval Club, also known as the King.

Recording All Times



Medieval Club was not any typical club. There was no other group that got together to make tunics and go to Renaissance Fairs.

Sophomore Casey Kirkpatrick said, "In other clubs you don't get to dress up and act like someone you're not."

Throughout the year, Medieval Club members participated in many different activities. Among these were making costumes, watching movies like Hamlet, and voting for king and prince.

Ed Lipinski, senior, said, "The best part is the learning-by-doing aspect of Medieval Club."

Another main activity of Medieval Club was the annual party at Mr. Jason Cope's house.

"The party at Mr. Cope's house is great because we all get to go in the woods and tell stories. It's a lot of fun," Becky Clay, junior, said.

Somewhere amidst all of the fun, members of the Medieval Club gained knowledge, too.

Ed said, "I've learned a lot about the Vikings and Celts. We also learned about Crusaders and Islam."

Becky added, "I learned about Medieval times: what they wore, how they talked, and what things were like then."

The Chemistry Team also gave members a chance to learn by doing. Mrs. Patricia Strawbridge won $1000 for the Chemistry Team. The CIBA award was given to one high school teacher in the nation each year for increaing science awareness for the community and the school.

"This year, I've learned more about science than I have in class. Hands-on stuff made learning about it fun," senior Michelle Easton said. The "Chemistry is Fun" team, traveled to schools and science fairs.

Five years ago, there was no team. Mrs. Strawbridge said, "I was doing the chemistry show by myself. Pretty soon, I needed helpers, and before I knew it, the kids were taking over!"

The team also taught teachers. At the science fairs, Alisa Tarry, senior, learned that "teachers are the worst students. They don't listen or follow directions!"

Through the years, Mrs. Strawbridge realized that "students are great teachers. They are enthusiastic and relate well with kids and adults. They should be the people out there teaching that chemistry is fun."

Karen Adams
Guest Writer: Michelle Cain





Juniors Louis Varner and Rick Morgan show the Biology I class a firey example of Chemistry. The Science Club went on many different field trips to show off their "Chemistry is Fun" show. Mrs. Pat Strawbridge, advisor of the Science Club, won $1000 for the school for increasing science awareness in the school and community.

With looks of intent, junior Shawn Stuttler, adviser Mr. Jason Cope, and senior Kate Crum demonstrate Medieval culture and custom. Members of the Medieval Club gave presentations about the Vikings and other things of that time period.







Sophomore Dan Garus shows a future chemistry student how to pierce a balloon without popping it.

Dressed to kill, senior Kate Crum shows off a Medieval flag, pointing out the sharpness of her halberd. Medieval Club promoted many activites through-out the year to increase awareness of other times and cultures.

Demonstrating how water will not escape from the bag when a pencil is poked into it, sophomore Izzy DeJesus laughs at the girl's wonder of the experiment. The Science Club went on many field trips to give their Chemistry Is Fun Show, including teaching at Alder Planitarium's Chemistry Day.



Student Council Front Row: Jeremy Caimens, Michele Baker, Heather Westerkamp, Tom Kaminski. **Row 2:** Irene DeJesus, Stephanie Lo, Mary Ellen Passarelli, Jill Finnerty, Kris Santonelli, Jennie Zielinski. **Row 3:** Amity McKiddy, Darcie Newberry, Michele Cronch, Cari Horne, Jenny Dranchek, Chrissy Cunningham, Julie Mason, Marcy Greer. **Back Row:** Sarah McEwan, Steve Letic, Brandon Miller, Chad Franks, Eric Mason, Cathy Zielinski, Holly Blake.

Student Law and Order





For a meeting of the new officers for the 1996 school year, Mr. Ron Hancock and seniors Michele Baker and Jeremy Caimens try to give the guidlines for Student Council.



At the Homecoming Parade, sophomores Nate Mundt, Jessica Reid and Izzy DeJesus th and roast fellow classmate Stephen Kinder, who just happens to be wearing a Raiders shirt.





During the meeting, Student Council members juniors Eric Mason and Jessica Mundell, senior Jeremy Caimens and sophomore Brandon Miller listen intently to what the club president Tom Kaminski is saying about the leadership conference.

When voting for the new officers of the next school year were happening, juniors Jacqueline Builta and Tiffany Mendizibal try to vote for who they think will be the best choice to student govern their school.







During the Teacher/Student Gift Exchange Christmas Social that Student Council sponsors, Guidance Secretary Mrs. Penny Gorgei exchanges gifts with junior Stacy Fenchak as her daughter and friend Kim Gorgei and Jenny Bush, sophomores,look on.

Junior Scott Curran shows that he is the stud in his tuxedo. The junior class sponsors the Prom Formal Show in which area boutiques come and give information for future prom goers.

As the new class officers wait for their turn, they listen to the speakers up front to what is being said about PHS.



Quill & Scroll: Sarah McEwan, Katie Belcher, Jenn Buergler, Cheryl Banke, Amanda Childers, Derinda Smith, Mini Montpetite, Mielissa Hasty.



Foreign Language Honor Society: Front Row: Mike Kelly, Mark Williams, James Espinoza, Dave Newton, Jason Kolczak, Karl Cheng. **Row 2:** unidentifiable, Andrea Batista, Julie Castro, unidentifiable, Mr. Forrest Rhode, unidentifiable, Kim Jalob, Jeseme Bysong, Heather Ciesielski. **Row 3:** unidentifiable, Carmen McKee, Laura Zielenski, Brianna Lees, Holly McQuen, Kavita Gupta, Nick Munoz, Juan Hinojosa, Dessa Lewondowski, unidentifiable, Stacy Smolnicky, Christina Timmons, Stephanie Wilson. **Row 4:** Elizabeth Orsolini, Nikki Floyd, Jeremy O'Neal, Cyndi Hatala, Katy Ostertag, Dana Rogers, Randi Ritter, Becky Easton, Kristen Lee, Tammi Griffey, Sarah Newhall, Katy Hatala, unidentifiable. **Back Row:** Kim Robinson, unidentifiable, unidentifiable, David King, Jeremy Conner, unidentifiable.

Sarah Newhall, senior, has her candle lit from Madame Sue McPherson, a French teacher. Sarah was inducted into the Foreign Language Honor Society for French. To be inducted into the FLHS, a student must have received an A in three semesters of a foriegn language.



Fine Academic Records



Groups to excell in excellence are growing in popularity fast. The National Honor Society, Foreign Language Honor Society, Business Professionals of America and Quill and Scroll (National Journalism Honor Society) require a specific GPA to be a member.

One of the largest groups of accelerated students is NHS. It is requires to have a GPA of 3.3 or higher to even be considered for nomination. Its members range in the numbers of over 100. The popularity of this organization is incredibly increasing.

This year, NHS has expanded its services. Members must be involved in a community service project, such as Peer Tutoring or the Buddy System. Some became involved with volunteering at the YMCA. Senior Sarah Newhall, president of NHS, stated, "Honor Society has become more involved. We helped raise money for the Oklahoma bombing (victims), we paid for members their blood tested for the Stacey McKay fund, but we also did some fun, relaxed things, like dances and going to Pittsburg. Honor Society has a lot to offer."

Honor Society also gives students who are not members a chance to be recognized for something special they have done. This project is called Super Kids of the Month. Super K sponsors this event which recognizes outstanding students, the "unsung heroes."

A group that recognizes honor journalists is known as Quill and Scroll. This organization is sponsored by Gary King. Students must have a GPA of 2.7 or higher, at least a sophomore and a member of the publications staff for one year. It is decided who enters by the members and the officers. They review what was accomplished by a staff member.

Senior Katie Belcher, who is Assistant Editor of the *Legend* and a newly inducted member into Quill and Scroll said, "Becoming a member of Quill and Scroll has been an award, an achievement for me because it allows people to see my dedicated work to journalism."

Business Professionals of America is a group that promotes leadership, team work and professionalism. The sponsor of BPA is Mrs. Lori Pavell. They have helped a great deal through the year. One examples the $100 donation to the Oklahoma City Bombing fund. The Foreign Language Honor Society recognizes the excellence of the top foreign language students. All of these groups show the advancement of future generations.

. . . Stephanie Markos



David Newton, senior, receives a medal for his excellence in German. David was also inducted into the Foreign Language Honor Society for Chinese.



Business Professionals of America: Front Row: Christina Timm, Arlene Lopez, Maegan Jedan, Amy Ramian, Shana Doll, Ramoita Rodriguez. **Row 2:** Virginai Bailey, Nicole Domenech, Yanira Fontanez, Amanda Childers. **Row 3:** Mrs. Jane Larson, Kristy Praschak, Tina Ruch, Rachael Persuhn, Kristen Gerbick, Kami Cooper, Julie Jones, Mrs. Lori Pavell. **Row 4:** Stas Hardy, Jason Lauvier, Brett Baker, Andre Pestrejeans.



National Honor Society: Front Row: Stephanie Markos, Kirsten Mead, Kelly Zapuruchu, Jamie Webster, unidentifiable, Laura Weeks, Stephanie Wilson, Katie Belcher, Michelle Cain, Mandy Mienke, Clay Davis, Tom Kaminski, Chad Huffman, Jeremy Caimens, Michelle Brown, Jeremy Conner, Emily Frachette, Connie Dicken, Jessica Hufford, Erin Hamiton. **Row 2:** Sawn Arden, Art Ables, Holli Binder, Trina Schaefer, Brian Rogers, David Newton, Cindy Bickham, Christine C. Smith, Cara Velez, Teresa Wilkins, Carri Taylor, Kris Santonelli, Tonia Jarvis, Katie Hatala, Chawn Hess, Josie Werhowatz, Stephanie Lo, Laura Demmon. **Row 3:** Sarah Newhall, Mark Morales, Elizabeth Johnson, Barb Laczi, Robynne Lute, Brad Skafish, Andrea Batista, Becky Hamstrom, Susie Hamstrom, Kaimi Blaha, Mindy Witt, Katy Ostertag, Heather Granzow, Erika Murrow, Rabia Javed. **Row 4:** unidentifiable, Chad Franks, Tina Fingerhoot, Kristal Durfee, Jeremy DeHaven, Jodi Deckard, Lizzie Garner, Kate Crumb, Mandy Cohen, Karl Cheng, Derek Hart, Mike Hatala, Dawn Bunker, Alicia Balaza, Karl Brown, unidentifiable, Nick Munoz, Sarah Murphy. **Row 5:** Kim Mrak, Donavan McKiddy, Sarah McEwan, Becky McDougal, Kelly McCorckle, Eric Mason, Matt Malaski, Melissa Mahony, Christie Lovings, Vicki Levan, Jill Ladra, Tiffany Kichner, Jeff King, Megan Kester, Heather Johnston, Renata Jefremenko, Carrie Hunt, Jami Holman, Denise Henderson, Mr. Dennis Norman. **Back Row:** Alan Washburn, Louis Varner, Vanessa Vargas, Alisa Tarry, Jessica Taiclet, unidentifiable, Stacey Smolnicky, Alica Smith, Elizabeth Slatton, unidentifiable, unidentifiable, Jenny Sciegal, unidentifiable, Brandy Rootkie, Shana Pollock, Rebecca Pelke.





Juniors Alan Washburn and Karl Cheng receive row assignments from Heather Grandzow, junior, the night of the Induction Ceremony. This year's Honor Society is the largest in PHS history.

An emotional Amanda Childers, senior, hugs Mrs. Debra Heitmann when she learns that she has received the Debra Heitmann Scholarship. The scholarship is given to seniors who have shown outstanding journalism and leadership skills. Amanda was Editor of the News Bureau.



Thespians–**Front Row:** Kris Santonelli, Stephanie Wilson, Kaimi Blaha, Alynne Sanders. **Row 2:** Kyla Landrum, Stephanie Collins, Julie Castro, Mandi Cohen. **Row 3:** Jennifer Dranchek, Jaimi Jablonski, Susan Corley. **Back Row:** Alan Washburn, Shawn Stutler.



Speech Team–Front Row: Katie Belcher, Sarah Newhall. **Row 2:** unidentifiable, unidentifiable. **Row 3:** Mrs. Linda Hicks, Melissa Mahoney, Kavita Gupta, Sam Hodsden, Rabia Javad. **Back Row:** Mr. Mark Karmel, Fahad Javad, Elizabeth Verbich, Mrs. Helen Mundell, unidentifiable, unidentifiable.



Senior Jennifer Dranchak makes sure that junior Alan Washburn's make up is on right before going out on stage. Jen and Alan have been in Thespians for a number of years and have graced the stage for many performances as well.

Recording Dramatic Vocies



Students who have the confidence to get up in front of an audience to speak or act have what it takes to be on the Speech Team or in Thespians.

Thespians sponsor a variety of performances that grace the PHS stage. The club takes care of the Fall Play, Spring Musical, Variety Show, Airband and the Outstanding Young Man program.

To join Thespians, one must accumulate points through working on and participating in theater productions, either in the house, on the stage or behind the big red curtain.

Senior and co-president Alynne Sanders stated, "We had an awesome time! We get so involved that it really makes it fun. It really is theatre!"

Not only do they perform on stage, but club members get to take trips to Chicago for blockbuster professional performances. Thespians also holds an annual Christmas party, along with cast parties and a year-end trip for the graduating seniors.

The Speech Team has no obligations to join or pre-requisite for membership, but has plenty of commitment to the speeches. There are twelve different categories in the competition. They range from interpretive events, such as a poetry reading and a humorous performance, to a debate like Congress and Lincoln/Douglas.

Mr. Mark Karmel stressed, "It broadens the horizons of the student by giving them the opportunity to not only become a confident speaker, but to challenge the high school student to experience new conflicts in the performing arts."

Sophomore Sam Hodsden, who partakes in Speech Team and acts on stage, said, "It's really hard remembering when you're performing for one thing and not the other! It can be challenging, but when you see all those people applauding you in the auditorium or you get a very good score, it just takes your breath away!"

...Joe Durk





Video Club-Front Row: Vonnie Loeffler, Kim Gorgei. **Back Row:** unidentifiable, Kirstin Picker, unidentifiable, Amber Bogold.

Seniors Misty Cragüe and Holly Foreman act out their performances for the PHS production of "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie".





Sophomore Kim Gorgei, Mr. Richard Beigh, junior Aaron Galindo and senior Btyan Tidwell smile for the camara as the try to produce the video of the Christmas Festival.



An enthusiastic junior Joe Christian rocks the house during Airband. Thespians sponsor many show throughout the year, including Airband.

Many boys wait to see who out of them will become the next "Oustanding Young Man." OYM is one of the activities that gets guys involved and to become closer friends with their classmates. The program is also sponsored by Thespians.



Concert Band Woodwinds: Front Row: Stacey Durr, Teri Lesko, Elizabeth Ireland, Courtney Melvin, Jenny Szegiel, Holleah Hitchcock, Michelle Spanks. **Row 2:** Janelle Peek, Jill Murray, Windy Caudill, Sean Will, Shelie Stout, Josh Eyermann, Jenny Lesko, Christina Torchia. **Row 3:** JR Joseph, Carrie Schnelle, Sarah Natalie, Sonia Soto, Shaun McCance, Susan Corley, Melissa Miniel. **Row 4:** Tracie Timpe, Shannon Rose, Steven Reibly, Kim Dudek, Derek Demmon.



Concert Band Brass: Front Row: Ginny Foster, Danielle Pickart, Janel Brink, Michelle Joseph. **Row 2:** Jennifer Johnston, Vonnie Loeffler, Toby Provins, Brandon Penix, Mike Gurevitz. **Row 3:** Robert Oaks, Rob Boule, Daniel Garus, Jenn Watson, Kevin Brown, Jeremy Kaiser. **Row 4:** Michelle Harman, Steven Renner, Chris Beach, Scott Moehl, Ryan Reber.



Concert Band Percussion and Saxophones— Front Row: Donald Woodke, Maegan Wendt, Cristal Durfee, Michelle Bugarin, Carlos Diaz. **Row 2:** Michael Hopkins, Joe Voska, Paul Blanton. **Row 3:** Kim Haskell, Kevan Watson, Robert Covington, Josh Sims, Kevin Flick.

Recording the Beat



The Concert and Symphonic Bands have been performing at top level this year. They competed in District ISSMA Contest, both bands receiving First Division Ratings. Concert Band received 9.5, 9.5, and 10, and the Symphonic Band received 8, 9, and 9.5, with a 7 being a perfect score.

Junior Joey Auskalnis, a tuba player in Symphonic Band, said, "We really pulled together this year. We were starting to worry around the time of contest because it didn't seem like we were getting anything done. That last week, though, we were able to pull it off. We did really well, better than I had expected."

Senior Michelle Cain, a percussionist in Symphonic Band, added, "This was the best we have ever done. I am very proud of what we did."

Shaun McCance, a junior clarinet player in the Concert Band, said, "I had a lot of fun this year. We always have a good time, win or lose. We practiced hard, and we played hard. If we didn't get the scores we wanted, oh, well, there's always next year. At least we had fun trying."

Junior Jamie Webster, a Concert Band clarinetist, added, "Well, it wasn't as good as I thought it would be. We did okay, but we've played much better than that."

Many members of the Concert and Symphonic Band have also participated in the District and State Solo and Ensemble Contests. Junior Annette Munoz said, "To make it to State Solo and Ensemble, you have to get a first place in Group 1, which is the hardest group. It's not an easy thing to do, and it's very exciting when you get to compete down state." Annette competed in two solo events, one on clarinet and one on tenor sax, at the State level.

Senior Cindy Miller said, "Our clarinet quartet made it to State this year. We were so excited just to make it. We didn't care what we got just so long as we got down State. And we did!"

The Concert and Symphonic Band performed an extra concert this year. To fill in the time between the Christmas Concert and District ISSMA contest, the bands performed a Winter Concert. They played fun, relaxing songs they don't often get to play throughout the year. There was even a professional Saxophone Quartet. One of the members was Concert Band Director, Mr. Bill Timmerman.

This year, there were many triumphs for the bands. Cindy added, "We've had a lot of performances this year, including a Winter Concert which we haven't had in the past. We've had a very full year, and it has helped to make a great senior year."

...Katie Belcher



Accompanying a soloist, junior Heidi Hedstrom watches the music and the performer at the Solo and Ensemble Contest. Many members of both bands participated in this contest. Some even qualified and performed well at the State Solo and Ensemble Contest.





With one of the strongest percussion sections in Portage High School, members of the Symphonic Band play four movements of the Mau Mau Suite as a special percussion feature.

Junior Rob Covington watches the director for his cue on the mallets. The Concert and Symphonic Bands played a special Winter Concert this year.



Symphonic Band Woodwinds: Front Row: Amanda Childers, Carrie Hunt, Cassandra Richart, Theresa Gibson, Stacey Ellerman, Sara Dexter, Jon Hoover. **Row 2:** Becky Hamstrom, Heather Johnston, Kirstin Mead, Annette Munoz, Jen Wilson, Melissa Chavas, Mark Williams, Laura Zielinski. **Row 3:** Joy Franczek, Michelle Brigham, Susie Hamstrom, Jill Adamski, Yvonne Jaime, Kim Nusbaum, Charity Marsh, Cindy Miller. **Row 4:** Michele Baker, Megan Kester, Jamie Webster, Elizabeth Cattani, Emily Martin, Annette Orr.



Symphonic Band Brass: Front Row: Karl Brown, Jason Copeland, Chris Kosovich, Jason Bovenkerk, Travis Thatcher-Curtis, Chris Westerkamp. **Row 2:** Jennifer Fox, Virginia Tillman, Heidi Hedstrom, Elsie Espinosa, Holly Foreman, Curtis Smith, Vanessa Stoker. **Row 3:** Jim Hampton, Ryan Tuthill, Alan Kane, Gabriel Chaddock, Heath Hitchcock, Erica Lund, Shawn Arden. **Row 4:** Kevin Elliott, Steve Elliott, Joey Auskalnis, Chet Turner.



Symphonic Band Percussion, Saxophones, and Bassons: Front Row: Kurt Scheller, Russ Simola, Eric Serrano, Amanda Gibson, Derek Hart, Christie Lovings. **Row 2:** Nick Karris, Kari Kaszniak, Joe Urban, Michelle Cain, Carrie Mitchell, Alan Washburn, Chris Rowland. **Row 3:** Stephanie Sandor, Mike Rogers, Christine Chapman.

All Those Jazz Records



Jazz Band I—Front Row: Russ Simola, Amanda Gibson, Derek Hart, Annette Munoz, Kurt Scheller. **Row 2:** Heath Hitchcock, Chris Kosovich, Jennifer Fox, Becky Hamstrom, Heidi Hedstrom, Holly Foreman. **Back Row:** Mike Rogers, Alan Washburn, Karl Brown, Gabriel Chaddock, Ryan Tuthill.



Jazz Band II—Front Row: Eric Serrano, Donald Woodke, Chris Huerta, Mike Childs, Mark Gronek. **Row 2:** Chris Beach, Ron Boozer, Scott Moehl, Kyle Stone, Joey Auskalnis. **Row 3:** Jason Chirila, Alan Kane, Cristina Timmons, Curtis Smith, Jenn Watson, Daniel Garus. **Back Row:** Kevan Watson, Tiffany Kirchner, Ron Holland, Carrie Mitchell.



Freshman Martha Devane tunes her French Horn with the rest of the section for the Christmas Concert. The Lab Bands played many different concerts this year, including the Christmas Festival.

It was a fun and productive year for both the Jazz Bands and the Lab Bands. With many concerts and contests through the year, they had many opportunities to show off their musical talent.

Mark Gronek, a two-year member of Jazz Band, said, "I'd rather play jazz instead of classical because it's a lot more loose." Mark plays the barrisax. His favorite event this year was the Spring Swing, which celebrated 15 years of music in the commons.

The Jazz Bands have many different requirements in order to be in either of the Jazz Bands. Some have to have permission from Jazz Bands director, Mr. Bob Symer. Others are asked to be in the Jazz Bands. There are also auditions for those with whom Mr. Symer is not familiar. The reason is because the music is a lot more challenging and requires a lot of extra time and practice. This year, the Jazz Bands had five musical performances.

Becky Hamstrom, also a two-year member, added, "The requirements that I had to have was piano lessons, which I previously had." Becky enjoys jazz more than classical because, "it's a lot more fun, more modern, and you can do a lot more with jazz. There's a lot of freedom."



Chris Kosovich is a four-year trombone member of Jazz Band. "The Jazz Band needed a trombone player, and I was doing very well during my seventh and eighth grade year, so I was chosen for the Jazz Band my freshman year, which does not happen often." Chris is in both Jazz and Symphonic Band. He also said that the Spring Swing was his favorite concert.

The Lab Bands also had a fun year this year. With a new director, they had to adjust to a new way of learning. Junior Louis Stanko said, "It was different this year. I'd been used to Mr. Racster for two years, and Mr. Webdell directed completely different."

Sophomore Stephanie Santos agreed. "I've had a lot of fun this year, though. The spring concert is a lot of fun because we play lots of fun music."

This year at District ISSMA Contest both Lab Bands received a Second Division Rating.

. . . Jennifer Glimer
. . . Katie Belcher



Heath Hitchcock, Chris Kosovich and Holly Foreman, seniors, and Eric Serrano, junior, prepare for a concert for Jazz Band. The Jazz Bands had many performances and activities this year, including a trip to Bloomington.



George Szabo, freshman, and Stephanie Santos, sophomore, practice scales as part of their daily class warm-ups.



This is the Lab Band conducted by Mr. Troy Webdell at the Annual Christmas Concert given in the Auditorium.



Pep Band—**Front Row:** Chris Kosovich, Jason Copeland, Gabe Chaddock, Tom Labus, Jennifer Johnston, Christina Stokes, Trisha Muniz, Danielle Pickart, Erin Johnston, Liz Cattani, Laura Zielinski, Robert Oakes. **Row 2:** Karl Brown, Nick Karris, Robert Cox, Mark Williams, Carrie Schnelle, Brandy McLean, Debbi Lesko, Jennifer Kuzma, Josh Eyermann, Jenny Fox, Michelle Kniola, Kyle Stone. **Row 3:** Corey Miles, Jeremy Kaiser, Margaret Opolski, Stephanie Santos, Windy Caudill, Petra DeJesus, Annette Munoz, Michelle Cain, Jenny Lesko, Annette Orr, Amanda Hise, Cheryl Mullin. **Row 4:** Michelle Harman, Shaun Arden, Teri Lesko, David King, Donald Woodke, Chris Beach, Joey Auskalnis, Heath Hitchcock, Rob Covington, Toby Provins, Jennifer Wayte, Mr. Troy Webdell.

Breaking the Records of Competition





Exhausted from the effort, junior Eric Serrano takes a deep breath while marching off the field after a performance. Over the summer, many Marching Indians put their time and efforts into keeping their band competitive. Their efforts paid off, making it all the way to Regional Competition, and keeping competitive marching for next year.

"We fought long, we fought hard and look how far we got," senior Joy Franczek said. "They told us we couldn't, and we told them we could. And we did!"

Last year, the band directors and the administration decided that the Marching Indians were not to be a competitive marching band for the 1994 Marching Season. Some of the members of the band wanted to compete, so they formed picket lines on Highway 6, wrote letters to the school board, passed out flyers with information on what happened and attended school board meetings to get the decision changed. After reconsidering the decfision, the administration allowed the band to compete for one year asa probation period. The band would be evaluated at the end of the year to decide if the band would continue being competitive.

They showed them that they could be a great band. "It was a hard transition from Mr. Racster to Mr. Webdell," junior Shaun McCance said. "We were used to a laid-back, relaxed way of doing things. Mr. Webdell is a lot more strict. He expects more out of us. He's a lot stricter. Both techniques work, but because they are such extremes, it was hard to get used to."

With the resignation of last year's director, Mr. Racster, the new director, Mr. Webdell, had a lot of challenges to face. "Everyone loved Mr. Racster; he went out of his way to be friends with everyone. We tried to do good because we wanted to make him proud of us. Mr. Webdell just worked us hard. He didn't try to become everyone's best friend. Instead, he was a band director, pushing us hard to show us what we could do. So, we worked hard to see how far we could go. We did it for us, not our band director," senior Michelle Cain said.

All of the hard work paid off. "We went far this year. We got all they way to Regionals. We did that my freshman year, but we didn't really think we would. This year, we were confident that we would at least make it to Regionals, if not State. We didn't make it to State, but we did make it to Regionals. We were very proud of how far we had gotten this year," junior Joey Auskalnis said.

"I'm proud of us. We had a lot of problems to overcome, a lot riding on this year. We did it, though, we really did," Shaun said.

. . . Katie Belcher



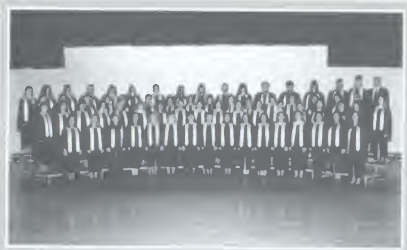


Keeping a close eye on the director, senior Jenny Lesko and junior Josh Eyermann play the school song during the Winter Homecoming game. Members of the Pep Band played during home basketball games. To liven things up, fun dress-up days like Clash Day or Elvis Day were offered.

During the Percussion Break, members of the Marching Band would put their instruments down and point at the stars. The theme of this year's show is Music of the Universe, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the space program. The Band played music from *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*, as well as music from Holts' *The Planets*.



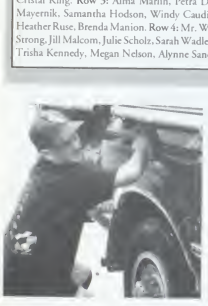
Marching Indians: Woodwinds: Michele Baket, Samantha Barnes, Paul Blanton, Michelle Brigham, Michelle Bugarin, Lisa Butala, Windy Caudill, Nicole Chagoya, Christina Chapman, Leslie Coello, Susan Corley, Robert Cox, Elizabeth Cattani, Kim DeBoe, Carlos Diaz, Briana Dixon, Cristal Durfee, Josh Eyermann, Aaron Finco, Joy Franczek, Rich Furnish, Heather Gaines, Sarah Gasienica, Mark Gronek, Kristi Hesseltine, Holleah Hitchcock, Leah Huddleston, Jodie Hunt, Elisabeth Ireland, Erin Johnston, Heather Johnston, Jennifer Kuzma, Tom Labus, Jenny Lesko, Teri Lesko, Charity Marsh, Shaun McCance, Cindy Miller, Melissa Miniel, Margaret Opolski, Annette Ott, Bill Parnell, Jennifer Sandage, Jenny Scegiel, Carrie Schnelle, Eric Serrano, Kristy Taylor, Tracie Timpe, Jennifer Wayte, Jamie Webster, Sean Will, Mark Williams, Jennifer Williams, Donald Woodke, Rhonda Woodke, Laura Zielinski. **Brass:** Shawn Arden, Joey Auskalnis, Bryan Anderson, Chris Beach, Sarah Bradford, Kevin Brown, Gabriel Chaddock, Jennifer Christian, Crystal Cummings, Jason Copeland, Jennifer Fox, Michelle Hatman, Amanda Hise, Heath Hitchcock, Jennifer Johnston, Jeremy Kaiser, David King, Chris Kosovich, Debbie Lesko, Brandy McLean, Scott Moehl, Tricia Muniz, Robert Oakes, Danielle Pickart, John Ray, Steve Renner, Amy Rivera, Curtis Smith. **Percussion:** Katie Belcher, Michelle Cain, Jenny Cap, Rob Covington, Kim Haskell, Tami Hasse, Nick Karris, Michelle Knola, Tandye Rowe, Josh Sims, Christina Stokes, Alisa Tarry, Joe Urban, Alan Washburn, Kevan Watson. **Color Guard:** Jessica Barnville, Heather Ciesielski, Heather Cresap, Bri Degener, Petra DeJesus, Jammie Keeling, Theresa Loving, Cheryl Mullin, Janelle Peek, Stephanie Waugh. **Drum Majors:** Holly Foreman, Annette Munoz



Concert Choir:—**Front Row:** Cheryl Mullen, Kim Spoa, Trish Castagna, Evana Torres, Sandra Alfaro, Michelle Histetler, Shaun Crider, Kristel Hammerstein, Lydia Gonzalez, Laura Gonalez, Juleen Pezel, Hollie Fleming, Evonne Pagan, Jackie Alfaro, Christie Crider. **Row 2:** Amanda Hise, Shelia Stalbaum, Keri-Ann Baldridge, Tasha Erdelen, Heather Bush, Melissa Reiley, Krissie Pall, Jay Beddla, Michael Ray, Tina Ruch, Elizabeth Bunker, Jill Childers, James Jacobs, Karen Piatek, Sandy Mills, Virginia Mayernik, Jamie Haack. **Row 3:** Cindy Miller, Jessica Becke, Becky Burton, Stephanie Dukes, Penny Needs, Michael Manske, Stephanie Gonzalez, Natalie Huffman, Stephanie Huffman, Nicloe Parsley, Liz Wineman, Monica Essig, Andrea Connelly, Tiffany Rounds, Yvette Colorado, Melissa Lloyd, Ginger Lapine. **Row 4:** Jennifer Johnston, Danielle Pickart, Amity mcKiddy, Frank Essany, Laura Heck, Betty Banks, Brian Bryniarski, Krissy Manion, Frances Tibbetts, David Maldonado, Heather Leon, Joe Chirwoood, Scott Matlock, Alicia Smith, Steve Benke, Adam Wathen.



Girls' Glee—Front Row: Tina Lugo, Theresa Lentner, Cindy Bickham, Rosa Vega, Jennie Zielinski, Sharron Strickland, Amber Bogold, Rhonda Woodke, Liz Singleton, Jessica Arredondo. **Row 2:** Marcy Greer, Yvette Colorado, Carrie Schnelle, Mikki Wininger, Lori Brown, Tina Fingerhoot, Cristal Durfee, Jessica Reid, Stephanie Dukes, Lana Siegel, Melissa Carpenter, Crtstal King. **Row 3:** Alma Marlin, Petra DeJesus, Janelle Peek, Amanda Siroky, Virginia Mayernik, Samantha Hodson, Windy Caudill, Loretta Jacobs, Erica Parsley, Jessica Meier, Heather Ruse, Brenda Manion. **Row 4:** Mr. Warren Miller, Sandy Mills, Toni Paxson, Sabrina Strong, Jill Malcom, Julie Scholz, Sarah Wadle, Sarah Gasienica, April Grasham, Jen Martinez, Trisha Kennedy, Megan Nelson, Alynne Sanders.



Putting a little elbow grease into his activities, sophomore Steve Kinder washes down a truck for the Choraliers' Car Wash. The Choraliers raised $700 to help pay for their yearly expenses, like costumes, props and a choreographer.

Recording The Songs



The 1994-1995 Choral year saw a lot of firsts, literally. As Director Warren L. Miller put it, "Everyone has done well. All four ensembles got firsts at ISSMA (Indiana Secondary School Music Association) contest, which hasn't happened in years."

Sophomore Bryan Conger was excited about the Choraliers' first place ranking, calling it the "biggest moment" of the year.

Junior Carol Prigge echoed his sentiments in regards to Girls' Glee Club. She noted that this was the first year Girls' Glee received a first place in performance and sight reading in Division II competition. Symphonic Choir received a first in the same categories, with a record 8.5 score in sight reading, in Division I competition, while Concert Choir received a first in performance.

If you ask any Symphonic Choir member what they remember about this year, they will answer with one word — TOUR! The choir performed in North Manchester, Huntington, and Muncie, IN, on a whirlwind weekend culminating at the Ball State Choir Festival. The experience really brought the choir together and helped make them a better ensemble. Junior Kris Santonelli especially remembers the "Huntington Methodist Church performance and our great host families."

While juniors Heather Johnston and Mandi Cohen enjoyed the camaraderie. "We laughed so much!" perhaps sophomore Ryan Van Tucker and senior Reuben Mendey summed it up best by simply saying it like this, "TOUR!"

Other highlights included the Girls Glee Club trip to St. Mary's College that one student lauded as "educational." Certainly the food couldn't be beat.

An important first was the presence of student teacher Anne Marie Goodwin who helped all the choirs prepare for contest and festival. And, yes, as senior Dawn Bunker put it, "The Millers are finally having a baby!"

As always, choir plays an important part in life here at PHS and promises to continue to do so even though there will be 33 seniors graduating. Senior Stephanie Wilson said it best, "I'm going to bawl my eyes out at Spring Festival. I've been in choir with Mr. Miller forever, and I'm going to miss it."

Guest Writer
Sarah Newhall





Symphonic Choir—Front Row: Kris Santonelli, Julie Castro, Melissa Virden, Laura Demmon, Rebecca Startup, Tammy Jacobs, Marissa Vallejo. **Row 2:** Bryan Conger, Sarah Newhall, Jose Torres, Rhonda Sulcer, Susan Corley, Yvette Colorado, Cindy Miller, Jeanna Lopez. **Row 3:** Kami Blaha, Frank Essany, Steve Kinder, Heather Johnston, Kate Crum, Julia Shelton, Donovan McKiddy, Stephanie Collins, Mandi Cohen. **Back Row:** Heather Waugh, Eric Knowles, Scott Matlock, Brandon J. Miller, Michelle Sparks, Angel Gray, Jennifer Wilson, April Grasham.



Choraliers—Front Row: Cindy Bickham, Marissa Vallejo. **Row 2:** Kris Santonelli, Heather Johnston, Steve Kinder, Madi Cohen. **Row 3:** Susan Corley, Brian Bryniarski, Jen Wilson, Bryan Conger, Heather Waugh. **Row 4:** Ryan Van Auken, Rhonda Sulcer, Megan Nelson, Amy Scribner. **Back Row:** Jessica Meier, Alma Marlin, Frank Essany.



Short but sweet, junior Kris Santonelli pulls herself up to her full height to sing "Joyful, Joyful" from the movie **Sister Act II**. The Choraliers performed in many concerts.



Sophomore Marissa Valejo puts her spirit into the Sacred Concert.

Becky Startup, senior, says she joined choir to help learn more about basics. The Symphonic Choir had a big this year, including a whirlwind weekend tour.





















Legend—Front Row: Amy James, Jenn Buergler, Stephanie Markos, Joe Durk, Katie Belcher. **Row 2:** Mr. Gary King, Amanda Falck, Lesley Cash, Roxie Vallangeon, Karen Adams, Stacy Lemley. **Back Row:**Christina Kostelnik, Josie Werhowatz, Derinda Smith, Alicia Balazs, Kelly Crowe, Sarah McEwan, Elizabeth Verbich.



News Bureaus—Amanda Childers, John Conrick, Margaret Opolski, Maureen Sprout.



Pow Wow—Front Row: Bob Witt, Tim Nush, Mike Jackson, Chris Banke, Cheryl Banke. **Row 2:** Melissa Hasty, Erik Barthel, Robert Likavec, Michele Brown, Tom Whittaker, Mignon Montpetit. **Back Row:** Jim Smith, Jenny Cotton, Curtis Snellgrove, Mr. Gary King, Vonnie Loeffler.

Publications Record the Words



Joining **Saga**, News Bureau, **Legend** or **Pow Wow** gave students opportunities to express their feelings to the school.

Students who wanted to work on **Legend**, **Pow Wow** or News Bureau were required to have completed one year of Beginning Journalism.

Some students on staff were encouraged before high school to consider working as writers, photographers, artists and editors.

Senior Katie Belcher said, "I was on staff in eighth grade, and Mrs. Lute then encouraged me to get involved. I also liked to write stories."

Sophomore Christina Kostelnik said, "I liked writing stories in middle school and then when I came to high school, I wanted to be a part of the **Legend** to help keep the tradition of our book going."

Pow Wow staff published a newspaper bi monthly throughout the school year led by Editor-in-Chief Melissa Hasty, senior.

Sophomore Jenny Cotton said, "I like **Pow Wow** because we represent the students of PHS, but sometimes it's hard to include everybody equally. The hardest part of being on staff is getting people to talk to you."

The News Bureau staff wrote press releases and sent them to general circulation papers such as the **Post-Tribune** the **Vidette-Messenger** and the **Portage Journal-Press**. The papers published many of the stories about school personalities and events of interest to the community.

Senior Amanda Childers said, "Our job is to write one story a week and turn it in on Friday. Sometimes we have to write fillers for the **Pow Wow**."

Amanda also said that publications has been a great experience for her and she would recommend it to anyone who is willing to work, because being on a staff does not mean you have an hour to sit around and do nothing. You will always have something to do.

Saga, the once-a-year literary magazine, published and sold about 500 copies with stories, poetry and art by students in it. The members of the staff designed the magazine and selected the works to be included. Many hours were spent reading keyboarding, proofreading and pasting up the layouts.

Junior Jamie Webster said, "I enjoy working on the **Saga** staff because of all the different kinds of poems and stories I get to read. Besides, it's a lot of fun seeing the book come all together."





Saga: Front Row: Tonya Bailey, Stephanie Pelot, Julie Planton. Row 2: Student Teacher Miss Gina Guamaccia Mrs. Jill Mangold, Christina Cambell, Louis Martinez, Virginia Mayernik Jody Kingery, Jamie Webster, Row 3: Kelly Clouse, Jenny Hunter, Trena Perrine, Kimberly Lowell, Roger Peele, Row 4: Mike Hershman, Sarah Wadle, Jesse Gonzalez, Cory McCammon, Mike Razus, Justin Kay, Sean Conners.

Yearbook staff members sophomores Elizabeth Verbich and Derinda Smith look over pictures for a spread. Because of all the teamwork involved in publications, friendships are often formed.







Stephanie Markos, senior, proof reads a spread for the senior album section. Editors of the different publications staffs have not only their work to do, but also must help others.

Junior Amber Vittetoe looks at negatives of picturees. Pictures are an essential part to making a publication more appeling.

Senior Josie Werhowatz and sophomore Joe Durk look over material needing completion for deadlines. Deadlines are a major part of getting the yearbook done right and on time.



Pep Club Front Row: Laura Weeks, Trina Schaefer, Tonia Jarvis, Gia Fornari. **Row 2:** Anne Crockett, Tina Fingerhoot, Jessica Mundell, Jill Hudson, Theresa Wilkins, Brandy Graham, Cari Taylor, Breanna Lees, Lindsay Klisiak. **Row 3:** Jessica Reid, Amber Riley, Michelle Sparks, Kelly Charbonneau, Brooke Brennen, Sydney Hodsden, Lani Kelly, Jill Karner, Jeanne Lopez. **Row 4:** Autumn Hyde, Kelly CLouse, Kelly Fallon, Valentine Torrez, Delores Dedina, Wendy Gilbert, Julie Giancola, Amity McKiddy. **Row 5:** Sarah Mitchell, Tiffany Dillard, Heather Andryuck, Trisha Swindle, Gena Ortiz, Jessica Provins, Megan Sedan, Victoria Nikonchuk. **Back Row:** Josh Young, Shaun Conners, Justin Smith, Alan Kane, Brandon Miller, David Bollinger, Russ Simola, Mike Rake.

Recording The Right Attitude





During the Pep club's meeting before Homecoming '94, seniors Laura Weeks and Trina Schaefer brainstorm with the members of what they and the school could do to celebrate a victorious win over the Raiders.

The Pep Club and FCA are two clubs that allow students to meet new people and have fun outside of the classroom.

The Pep Club consists mostly of cheerleaders and Pom Pons but it's open to all students that want to get involved. They do a variety of things like baking for team members before a game, decorating their lockers, and cheering for them. The members create school spirit by doing these activities.

"We bake for all sports, we try to do something nice for the other teams like send them flowers and balloons," junior Alicia Smith stated.

Junior Tina Fingerhoot said the main purpose of Pep Club is, "trying to get school spirit and people involved."

Senior Laura Weeks replied, "It's to promote school spirit for the games and organize events going on in school."

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is an organization that student athletes can join or anyone else that is interested. The organization gives everyone a chance to discuss Christian values and learn more about Christian life in sports and school.

"The FCA is a club where we all get together. We pray, talk about God, morals, and play games. It lets everybody get a chance to talk about Christianity," senior Trina Schaefer stated.

Senior Tonya Jarvis said, "I like FCA because it gets you away from school, it keeps you focused on your spiritual life and to meet with new people who share your morals and beliefs."

"I like FCA because we don't only pray, but we work as a group to go soul searching," Trina added.

The Pep Club and FCA are two fun clubs that are open for anyone who wants to get involved.

...Katie Belcher







Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Front Row: Mr. John Kappas, Mrs. Clara Lilly, Nate Mundt, Mr. Ralph Mundt. **Row 2:** Michelle Lilly, Jennen Stafford, Doug Samuel, Chris Westerkemp, Jeff Fain. **Back Row:** Lisa Fain, Denise Lilly, Ryan McGuffy, Nick Munoz, Trina Schaefer.

Listening to what the president of Pep Club is saying, senior Jill Hudson and sophomores Heather Andryuck and Michell Sparks wait to what is heing said about the 1994 Homecoming.





Some of the cheerleaders and their friends take time out to smile for the camera as they give a little bit of their pep to the crowd and team on the field.

After a win at homecoming, the next challenge were the arch rivals, the Brickies. The Pep Club helped bring the house down by designing T-shirts and coming up with catchy slogans.

Waving her little stick to show her pep for the team, junior Lizzie Garner dresses up in her class outfit for the Homecoming Pep Rally. The juniors came in second almost everyday when it came to class colors days.










26
29




Heckteam




EDGE



Students Against Driving Drunk /Students Taking On Problems (SADD/STOP): **Front Row:** Mike Jaso, Tammy Kiser, Nicole Szmutko, Nedine Cunningham, Amy James, Renee Whiteman. **Row 2:** Jenene Stafford, unidentifiable, Jill Priest, Elizabeth Slatton, Megan Edmonds, Ms. Estelle Chaddock, Michele Baker, unidentifiable, unidentifiable. **Row 3:** Darcie Newberry, Jennie Zielinski, Samantha Hodsden, Beth Duron, Carrie Hunt, Jen Dranchak, Heather Westerkamp, Amy Washburn. **Row 4:** unidentifiable, Derinda Smith, Adam Branham, Jeremy Caimens, Eric Mason, Casey Palichuk, Arlis Johnson, Joe Durk, Mike Lee. **Row 5:** Izzy DeJesus.

Recorded Clean and Sober





Junior Irvin Santana leads the Youth Alive morning discussion. Youth Alive met every morning before school for a morning prayer and discussion.

Among other groups there is Prayer and Students Against Driving Drunk/Students Taking on Problems (SADD/STOP), two groups which allow students to meet new people and get emotionally involved.

Sophomore Joe Durk, a member of SADD/STOP, stated, "I enjoy SADD/STOP very much because I like getting in touch with the people in the club, school and community. It gives us a chance to talk to the little kids of the community by going to their Just Say No "End-of-the-Year" party for the elementary schools and the "High School Heroes" anti-smoking program.

Some students might wonder what "Snowball" is that a lot of members of SADD/STOP talk about, and what it has to do with SADD/STOP. Snowball is a weekend long retreat where you get locked in a school, which is a drug and alcohol free environment.

Sophomore Samantha Hodsden stated, "Snowball, from what I hear, is the greatest weekend of anybody's life. All the activities we do are a lot of hard work, but when it comes to helping others, it's a lot of fun and really worth it."

SADD/STOP meets once a week to discuss how to take on drunk driving and problems of students today. The club sponsors fundraisers and dances.

Prayer, also known as Youth Alive, meets everyday from 7:15-7:25 am. Mrs. Bonnie Albert is the president of this club. Students join this club to help keep God in their daily life and it starts their day off in a pleasant way.

Mrs. Albert, when asked why she became the Youth Alive advisor, said it was because, "I was asked by the kids."

The Youth Alive Club is lead by junior Irvin Santana. He comes in and reads a citation from the Bible. After the citation is read, the club discusses the selection.

Both SADD/STOP and Youth Alive try to bring awareness to the school about different ways to lead a life—drug and alcohol free and with a prayer in your heart.

. . . Stacey Lemley



For the "High School Heroes" Anti-Smoking Program, senior Nikki Szmutko demonstrates the effects of a cigarette on the foam lungs. Nikki served this year as the SADD/STOP secretary.



Youth Alive: Front Row: Aaron Rivera, Emily Frechette, Elsie Espinosa. Row 2: Irvin Santana, Mrs. Bonnie Albert, Tonia Jarvis, Zach Zagar, Michael Harkins.







Tonia Jarvis, senior, listens intently to the morning prayer. Youth Alive also advertised the annual Prayer around the Pole.

Mrs. Estelle Chaddock, adviser of SADD/STOP, informs the club at a meeting about upcoming events. Mrs. Chaddock has been the advisor for eight years.

Izzy DeJesus, sophomore, and others discuss the upcoming Snowball. Snowball is a drug and alcochol free weekend in which many members of SADD/STOP participated.

For the Record

Seniors Laura Weeks and Tonia Jarvis participate in a Leadership classroom activity. The Leadership class is a selected group of juniors and seniors that travels to the elementary schools to teach games to younger children.





Senior John Berry thinks about how he plans to organize his term paper. All the senior English classes were given time in the computer labs to type their term papers.



Junior Kelly Clouse learns how to properly develop film in her photography class. After taking a photography class, some students enjoy working on the yearbook or newspaper staffs to "develop" their skills and publish their work.

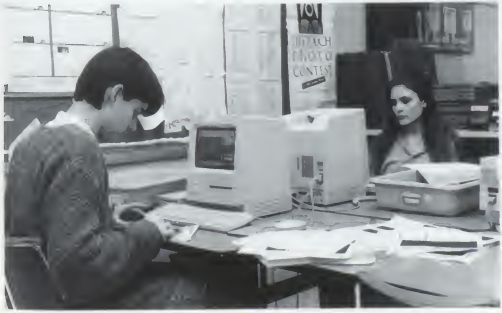
Academics are the heart of PHS. For seven hours each day, students are exposed to classes that require thinking and stimulate growth or that provide relaxation and a chance to pursue a hobby. Of course, many students choose to take study hall for a change of pace.

Portage provides a variety of academic programs for students. For those students planning to attend college or a university following graduation, the college preparatory program can't be beaten for depth or challenge.

For the students who plan to enter the workforce after being graduated from PHS, vocational programs in several areas equip students with skills to enter the work force. Building trades, auto mechanics, diesel mechanics, printing and administrative support services classes are all taught at PHS, while other programs such as dental careers, health occupations, Computer Assisted Drafting, electronics, marketing and machine trades and welding are held at other locations, and students from Portage attend those classes.

For those students who are not sure about college or work plans when graduation arrives, PHS has been a leader in the Tech Prep program, a group of classes taught in an "applied" way that help students learn things such as problem solving and working as a member of a team while mastering course content. Many Tech Prep courses are lab classes, even in math and English.

Special programs for students in special education, fine and performing arts and honors also provide students opportunities to learn and succeed at their own levels. PHS truly provides academic experiences for each student and those academics are certainly the focus at PHS.



Sophomores Joe Durk and Roxie Vallangeon are members of the Legend yearbook staff. Staff members produce the entire yearbook on Macintosh computers.

Superbowl Shuffle

Academic competition a sport as well

The academic teams consisted of different teams like Spellbowl, Quizbowl, Academic Decathalon, and Academic Superbowl. There are different events to compete in, and the students spend time studying for those competitions.

"I like the chance to exhibit our academic skills. In our basic meeting we review things, mess around, and hang out. My best memory is when I got a first place ribbon in math," junior Shaun McCance stated.

Junior Lisa Fields said,"The thing that I like best is the team support. In a meeting we go over new materials. I wanted to be in this activity to learn new things. The best competition was when our team placed first in the spellbowl."

Sophomore Donald Woodke replied,"The best thing about being in the academic team is the family bond we have . I joined this activity because I lost a bet with a friend. My best memory was when I got a first place ribbon."

Many students enjoyed the meetings and being with friends.

"I like meetings because you can do whatever you want. I figured if I if I joined the football team they would never let me play, so I joined the academic team. The best moment was when there was a guy named Chunk eating a whole gallon of ice cream at one of our competitions,"junior Dan Lomax stated.

Sabrina Stearns, freshman, said, "The best thing about competition is the food. I promised Mrs. Mangold that I would join. One time at a spelling bowl I wore a handicap sign on my shirt,"(this means: bad speller.)

David King, sophomore, said, "I think it is fun."

...Christina Kostelnik



Junior Karl Cheng concentrates on his spelling for his spellbowl competition. The spellbowl members had to study numerous spelling words to prepare for a variety of competitions.





Junior Lisa Fields studies over her questions. Students went over and studied various questions to prepare themselves for competition.



Senior Jamie Jablonski works on her academic team material. Academic team members competed in different categories, which were challenging for the individuals involved.



Sophomore Tim Nush and junior Lisa Fields cheer loudly after hearing the announcement of their team winning a competition. The members of the Academic teams were dedicated to their team and worked hard to accomplish different goals such as the Decathlon team going to state in Indianapolis and winning a trophy.

Quotable Quotes

Q: How does it feel to be on an academic team?

A: "It was very intriguing, especially because you meet people you don't meet normally."
Eric Mason, 11



A: "It's really good, we had a great year."
Dan Lomax, 11



A: "I enjoy it because it's an opportunity to meet people from other schools."
Phil Grigilanz, 11





Sophomore Mike Passerelli cheers with excitement as his team scores. Students involved in academic teams worked hard to accomplish goals throughout their season.



The Academic Team coaches, Mrs. Arlene Kramer, Mrs. Jill Mangold, Mrs. Dorothy Kurtz and Mr. Ron Sparacino, display the trophy the students won at state competition. The teams worked hard to earn their achievements.

Preparing for Rewards

Classes prepare students for "Real World"

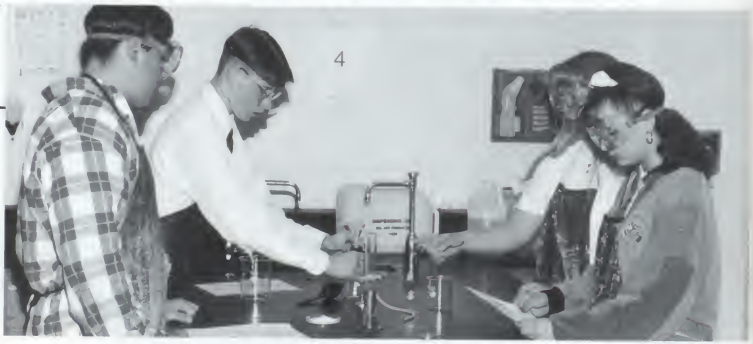


During one of their lectures, sophomores Carlos Diaz and Paul Blanton understand what their teacher is explaining.



For her English Honors class, senior Robynne Lute gives a speech of her choice. Not only did Robynne receive high accolades for her achievements, she also made Valedictorian.





Students in Chem Com do a lab on the density of water. Many kids take a Tech Prep class because they think that it will help them better in life than the usual bookwork.



Sophomore Andy Risteau carefully takes the temperature of water in his TechPrep Biology class. Many labs were done in the preparatory classes.



Senior Tammi Griffey writes her answers for Chinese Honors class homework. The foreign language classes also have a wide assortment of honors classes.



Sophomores Ryan Bonner and Phil Frechette listen intently to what their Chemistry teacher Mr. Guernsey is saying. Many sophomores decided to take chemistry in their second year at PHS so it would count as an advanced class.

Plugging In

Math and Science Share Skills

While most other math and science classes have nothing in common, algebra and chemistry share similar characteristics. Students have to apply equations and plug in variables in each case. In algebra, students must learn to apply the basic math rules while learning to do new concepts, like the quadriatic equation. The same thing goes for chemistry.

Math teacher Mrs. Anne Frost said, "If you don't know how to solve equations, you can't do chemistry for your calculations. The basic idea *is* to solve equations."

"The basic logic between algebra and chemistry is the same, but in chemistry you are working with more than just numbers, you work with formulas. Both are fairly similar because you are constantly working with equations," senior Nedine Cunningham stated.

Mr. Henry Looft stated, "One must have algebra to solve the math problems in chemistry. As one goes on in chemistry the higher level of math is needed."

"They both require problem solving and give lots of homework," sophomore Josh Eyermann said.

Nedine added, "I like the hands on experience you get because it illustrates the materials the teachers are trying to present."

Junior Bridgette Swab said, "The similarity between the courses is that in both you have to solve equations with a variable, sometimes even two."

Bridgette concluded, "I like the math and science classes because the teachers are cool."

...Joe Durk
...Christina Kostelnik



Senior Rabia Javed does a laser experiment for physics class. Students in Mr. Wolfman's physics class performed different experiments throughout the year.





Sophomores Jeff Camp, Chris Banke, and Nicole Shasteen work in groups together in Mrs. Clara Clark's Algebra CORD class. Algebra CORD involved group work.



Sophomore Laura Zielinski works on her math homework in Mrs. Laurie Smock's Algebra II Honors class. Students had to work hard in their accelerated Algebra II by studying for tests, keeping up with homework and taking notes.



Michael Gurevitz and Dave Warren, juniors, dissect a fetal pig in Bio II. Every year students dissected a fetal pig along with other specimens as part of their nine-week grade. Many students enjoyed it but others found it grotesque.

Quotable Quotes

Q: What's the similarity between algebra and chemistry?

A: "You use the same logic for both." Alynne Sanders, 12

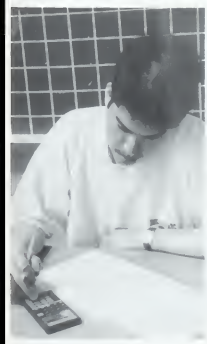


A: "You use algebra to solve chemistry problems." Monica Teso, 12



A: "I'm getting an A in algebra and I still don't know what I'm doing in chemistry." Amber Bogold, 10





Junior Ruben Mendez concentrates on a math test. Many students took math classes all four years of high school to help with their college or career plans.



Sophomore Bryan Conger reads his math problems in Introduction to Algebra C class. In this algebra class, students worked with workbooks and calculators to do their classwork.

New Policy Enforced

Students Unhappy About Change

Mr. David Masty said in French "Bucher" and in Chinese "Gung Zuo Hao" and Mrs. Lynne Huerta said in Spanish "Trabajen Mucho." All mean "to work hard" in different foreign languges, and that's what foreign languge students did due to the new foreign language policy.

The new policy sent home to parents stated: "If your child receives a D or F in either semester of the previous language year then they are not allowed to move on to the next semester without taking the previous one over."

Sophomore Shannon Imes said, "I don't think it is fair for the students that really want to learn a foreign language but are having trouble in their classes. I think there should be a remedial class that they could be in. They shouldn't be denied their right to learn."

Shannon wasn't the only person that disagreed with the policy. Sophomore Chris Ward said he thought it is unfair because different students have a harder time learning things that other students catch on easily to.

Others thought it was unfair because the policy was only for Spanish and French. For example, Freshman Irene DeJesus said, "I don't think it is fair. If it happens for two of the classes, then it should be for all of the classes."

Junior Tim O'Neal seemed to agree. He said, "If it is for us, (Spanish and French students), then it should be for everybody."

Mrs. Katherine Hites, one of the many Spanish teachers, said the reason it is only for Spanish and French is because those are the two main languages that are taken. She estimated around 900 students are in those two languages. She also said there isn't many people taking other foreign languages, only a few classes for each teacher, and those teachers probably don't want to lose what little students they have.

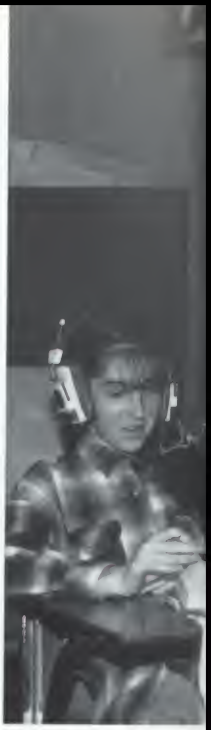
Mrs. Hites totally agrees with the new policy. "I think it will affect the classes and it will affect the students. Classes will be better and students will be better and we (classes) will be able to do a lot more. I'll have students who are ready."

Not all students disagree with the policy. Both Senior Chris Fruehwirth and Sophomore Amity McKiddy said they think students will learn more in a shorter time period.

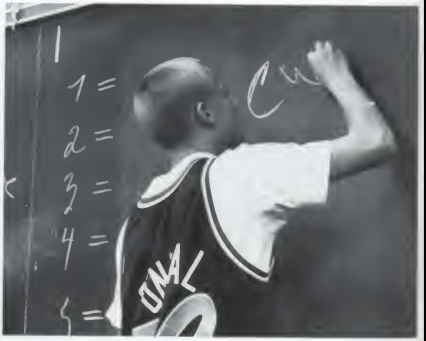
The policy wasn't made to deprive people of their education like some students think. The policy was adopted so students can learn the material they need to learn at the rate they are supposed to learn it.

Even though students tend to disagree, few think the policy will effect them. Freshman Nicole Hall said, "I don't think it will really effect me because I think my foreign language is pretty easy so far."

. . . Derinda Smith

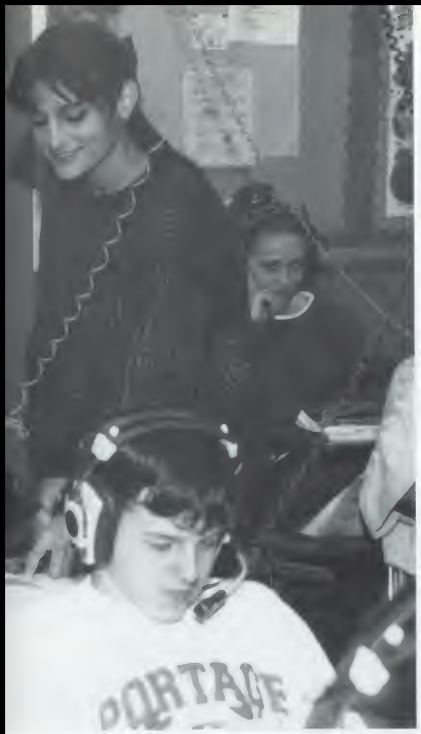






Senior Chad Huffman, as part off the French V Honors project, gives an oral presentation. He had to write and recite it in French.

Freshman Jason Chontos plays a game on the board in Mrs. Snemis's third hour Spanish class. Foreign language teachers sometimes had games students would play to help them remember their words.



Mrs. Snemis talks to Freshman Gabrielle Jaremczuk, while Freshman Pat Helmecy does his work and Sophomore Heather Kucera looks on. The Spanish classes used headsets to do listening exercises in their workbooks.

Quotable Quotes

Q: What do you think about the new foreign language policy?

A: "You are just starting a language and they shouldn't keep you in there if you are getting a D or F" Amanda Siroky, 10



A: "…. if you don't do good the first time, there is no way you'll do good the second time." Jeremy O'Neal, 10



A: "If you don't get a good enough grade the first time, then you won't be able to pass the class." Nicole Smith, 10





Mr. David Masty lectures on French culture in his French V Honors class. Besides the language, students also learn about customs.



Students in Mr. Masty's Mandarin Chinese II practice their chinese characters. The characters were a memorable part of their vocabulary lessons that they studied weekly to enhance their knowledge of the language and its culture.

Learning While Teaching

High school students help teach fifth graders

Teaching students how to lead and also to be a good follower was the whole purpose of Leadership.

Leadership was a class created in 1968 by Ms. Bernita Adkins. Ms. Adkins retired and then handed the program down to Mr. Bill Wilke.

During the middle of May, the class took a two day trip to Meadowbrook, a Girl Scout Camp. As they arrived there, they were greeted by fifth graders from Central Elementary School. The class taught the kids how to prepare for life and how to prepare for middle school and its pressures.

"I think you (students in Leadership) learn a lot from fellow classmates. They (the students) are in charge of 100 kids out here. It teaches them how to work with children. It also gives them a chance, a real chance, to discover how to work with people," Mr. Wilke said.

Stephanie Hernandez, an eleven-year-old at Central said, "It's fun because you get to play lots of games and you get to meet new people. It's weird that the teachers let them (high school students) out just to be with us."

A few of the high school students did a skit for the fifth graders to show the kids what to do when someone offers them drugs. They also show the kids the effects that drugs have on people's lives.

Mrs. Jodie Barnum, a teacher at Central, said, "It's a great experience for the kids. Just that skit gave them a message. It means more to them coming from high school kids then it does coming from us (parents and teachers)."

Senior Chris Fruehwirth said, "I learned so much work is involved in putting a camp together. I think for most of them (the kids) it (the camp) was a high point in their childhood. The kids were depressed that they had to go to school the next day."

by Derinda Smith



Senior Kellie Poe acts out a skit about the problems of peer pressure placed on the youth of today. The fifth graders being taught found the information about what to do in certain situations helpful and interesting.







Seniors Roger Peele and Sherri Stamper look on as members of their Leadership class lead group activities. The class brought together many friends.

Senior Steve Letic looks around for fifth grade members of his group. One of the highlights for the fifth graders was getting to meet their group leaders.



Senior Justin Kay trys to quiet down his excited group of fifth graders so that they can hear the directions and rules for the days activity. Justin was in charge of the group along with seniors Roger Peele and Sherri Stamper.





Senior Erik Taylor talks through the megaphone to the excited fifth graders about the activities they will be experiencing throughout the day.



Leadership class; front to back, left to right: Steve Letic, Ryan Reagor, Dave Skolak, Clint Pullen, Sherri Stamper, Connie Dicken, Beth Klakoski, Kellie Poe, Teresa Wilkins, Laura Weeks, Amy James, Missi Fekete, Christy Ramian, Jessica Hufford, Jill Hudson, Roger Peele, Mike Isso, Dana Floyd, Dawn Fessler, Beth Kozrowski, Chris Fruehwirth, Sarah McEwan, Jeremy DeHaven, Eric Hart, Eric Taylor, Mike Guth, Nedine Cunningham, Kari Wiseman.

LRE Expands Horizons

Student Pass; Special Olympics

Junior Nick Karris earned a pass to the 1995 Special Olympics at New Haven, Connecticut. The event took place July 1st-9th.

Nick, the 16 year old junior, was chosen from four athletes in Indiana to compete at the event.

Mrs. Ella Karris, Nick's mother, estimated about 6,900-7,000 athletes involved. She also said there were an expectant 92 countries world wide to take part.

In November of 1994, Nick, training since he was five, participated in the Special Olympics when he was eight, learned about his participation in the 1995 Olympics. He started swimming every day for training and once a week he would go to the YMCA to work out and build endurance.

In the middle of May of 1995, Nick took a 10 day trip to Colorado Springs for a training camp. The camp was for the International Swimmers to prepare for the Special Olympics. The athletes got more of a chance to work with others in a different environment away from home.

Nick stayed with other American participants in a dorm at Yale University.

Special Olympics director Lorrie Woycik has been training with Nick since November and went with him to training camp in Colorado.

Mrs. Liz Hanlon, the LRE teacher, said of Nick, "He has always tried his hardest. He is an excellent role model, he's one of the best students I've had."

Mrs. Karris said, "I am very proud of him. Just seeing him out there swimming is great."

...Derinda Smith



Junior Nicole Shaw runs intently on the tread mill in her 4/5 hour gym class. Students in LRE got to participate in classes such as art and photography and had classes such as functional reading and functional math.



Mr. Rich Lowe helps junior Nicole Shaw count money. Counting money was one of the many fundamental skills students learned to help in everyday life.





Freshman Nicole Shaw makes waffles in her LRE class. One of the most important parts of the LRE program is teaching the students how to use everyday things and work in an everyday environment. Peer tutors shared many fun times with the students. Their biggest highlight was when they took a trip to a Cubs game.



Sophmore Cathy Merritt helps junior Nick Karris draw a picture. Peer tutors were an important part of LRE students learning system. Peer tutors were there for the students both mentally and socially.

Pursuing Better Grades

Requirements prepare students for life

Whether it's learning how the heart pumps blood or giving a speech about how many people recycle each day, both health and speech are requirements to graduate.

Anna Klumpe, junior, said, "It (speech) is a real waste of time because I hate geting up in front of people. It's boring."

Sophomore Brian Stevenson agreed. He said, "I don't like it because you shouldn't have to get up in front of 25 people and embarrass yourself."

Junior April Kokul said she didn't think speech should be a requirement. She also said that she doesn't think employers will ask for it.

Some students obviously did not seem to enjoy the class, while others obviously liked to show off their speaking abilities. For instance, sophomore Brandon Miller said, "I like speech because it gives me a chance to express myself and my views. I've learned to do research note cards and be more organized." Brandon added, "for many, it's a chance to overcome fears."

Talea Shorter, sophomore, seemed to be thinking along the same line. She said, "I like my speech class because it teaches me how to speak in front of people without being scared."

Like speech, health was also a requirement to graduate, and, as with speech, students' views seemed to differ.

Chris Espinoza, sophomore, said, "I think health is cool, fun, and people should know about it."

Sophomore Mike Jackson, who took health over the summer, said he thought it was "sort of fun."

On the other hand, there were students who didn't like the class. For example, sophomore Mindy Gilbert said she already knew everything.

While the debate about whether or not health and speech should be requirements, students will still have to learn about personal hygiene and give speeches about their favorite holiday.

by Derinda Smith and Elizabeth Verbich



Junior Josh McCasland puts a big empasis on his speech while he tells the class statistics about AIDS. Many students choose speeches such as AIDS and teen pregnancy because they are problems students are becoming aware of.





Mr. Mark Karmel, in his first year as a PHS teacher, evaluates a speech.



Group projects are a significant part of speech class. Even though one person is speaking, all members of the group contributed to the project.



Metatarsels and tarsels are the topic of Mr. Dan "Doc" Merrill's presentation to his athletic training class.



Preparation for speeches is important, and that preparation means book work.



Sophomore Esther Torres and freshman Kevin Watson hit the books in their health class.

Creativity Explodes

Students take solace in their artwork

Some people look at life a little differently, some with an artist's eye or through a camera's lens. Photography and art classes gave students an opportunity to express their minds and their ideas through artwork.

Some students had inspirations and things they thought about while they created their masterpieces. Other students just made things.

Junior Shawn Stutler said his influences are Gothic movement and his mother. "My mother supports me. She was really into art."

Senior Mike David said, "I just wanted to make jewelry." Mike was one of many students that had no outer influences.

Even if students didn't have an influence, almost all students tried to create a certain mood to their work. Whether it was abstract, symmetrical or surreal, students always tried to convey a feeling for the viewer.

Senior Tom Whittaker said, "I like to portray my pictures (photographs) as being how the world should be, filled with death, destruction and machines."

Freshman Shannon Strickland said she liked to create a side that has a lot of death and abstract sculpture.

Senior David Crook said his favorite feeling he liked to disperse was free form sculture.

Both Tom and senior Paul Matthew said they liked to convey surrealism and industrial waste.

From the rough sketch and waiting for that first image to appear, art and photography classes worked through the techniques to present their thoughts in a different form.

By Derinda Smith



Senior Melissa Hasty paper maches an old relish jug to create an urn, a visual work used for decoration. The project helped students learn about rhythm within art.





Mrs. Wiese shows senior Dan Sullivan how to put his portfolio together. Portfolios showed the acheivements students made in photography throughout the semester.



Junior Heather Granzow paints an oil painting of still life. "I was looking at still life, then painting my oil painting. I was trying to bring the feeling of still life into my project," said Heather.



Freshman Shane Kary gets in close as he paints a picture of a vase. Shane, who was part of the Least Restrictive Environment program which was designed to help students with disabilities, said he enjoyed his classes.

Quotable Quotes

Q: Why did you take jewelry as an elective?

A: "I just wanted to make jewelry." Sherry Meeks, 11



A: "I wanted to explore the medium of jewelry. I wanted to make art that I could wear." Michael David, 12



A: "I like jewelry." Tracey Melcher, 11





Junior Shannon Yon looks through magazines to catch images for her project. "Some images don't appear to your mind until you see them somewhere, then you can build on it," said Shannon.



Sophomore Gina Anderson works on her photography project called photo montage. Photo montage was created as a visual for students to see two picture cut up and put back together as one.

Learning With Writing

English classes teach students about

Although seven English credits, plus speech, are required to graduate, many students decide to take elective English courses that interest them.

There are many elective classes offered, such as Beginning Journalism (J-1). The class teaches many skills to become a good reporter, page or section editor and editor. After completion of J-1, one is able to become part of the publications staff.

"I like it (journalism)! We learned the basics of journalism and wrote stories," said freshman J-1'er Kathy Rea.

Freshman Shaun Simmons said, "We wrote stories every week and worked out of the book a lot."

Creative Writing is another elective class students can take. In that class, students do a variety of writing, like poetry and free writing.

"We had a short story unit and we had to a lot of spontaneous writing assignments," said senior Mindy Witt.

Senior David Mitchell said, "I learned a lot about poetry. Once we had to make up a character and write a fictional story using it."

Mindy added, "I liked the class because it helped me grow as a writer."

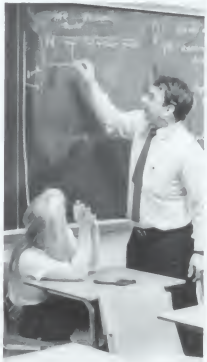
English is required for all students to take. Senior Marisa Calvert stated she liked her Business English class. "We had spelling lists every week, but it was very easy!" she noted.

"In composition, we went over adjectives and adverbs, as well as many other many mechanics of the English language. I loved my English class," said freshman Jennifer Darnell.

Many students find that English classes, both required and elected, taught them valuable lessons that will help them for the rest of their lives.

... Christina Kostelnic

English teacher Mr. Gary King teaches his students the many ways to type a resumé. In sophomore compostition, teachers required that a resumé was handed in so students could get a glimpse of what the real world holds for them.









Students in J-1 cut out newspaper articles. Beginning Journalism is a prerequisite course that when completed offers the opportunity to join any one of the three publication staffs.

Junior Pat Enocksen works on his homework in his 11th grade literature class. Students in the junior class were required to read "Brave New World" to pass for the nine weeks. Other novels read were "MacBeth" and "Lord of the Flies".



During one of her lectures, Mrs. Jill Redmond talks to her students about the tragedies in the Shakespearean play "MacBeth". Mrs. Redmond was a first-year teacher and was admired by most of her students.

Quotable Quotes

Q: How do you feel about English?

A: "My feelings toward English are that it's ok as long as you get a teacher who makes it more exciting." Sabrina Reynolds, 9

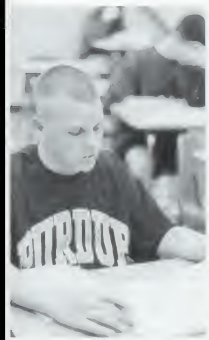


A: "My English class was really boring, and the lectures had absolutely no point." Amanda Martus, 10



A: "I love to write poetry, and it gives me a chance to learn different ways of writing." Stephanie Santos, 10





Freshman Joe Tinnel studies his spelling assignment for his ninth grade composition class. In literature, two novels that were read were "Romeo and Juliet" and "Great Expectations".



In their ninth hour Creative Writng class taught by Mr. Dennis Norman, juniors Freddie Rodriguez, Rod Carnahan and Bill Mick share their story of insight to the class. After a story was written, students had to get up and give an oral reading of it.

Senior Requirements

Government and econ to graduate

There are a variety of required classes that students must take to graduate. Seniors must take government and economics.

Econ teaches students how to handle money, use insurance, buy a house or car and research a career.

Government is the other required class. In government, students learn about different branches of the government, including how laws are passed.

Students agreed that government and econ are important classes.

"We're going to use the principles we learned when we graduate. Everyone should know how the government works," senior Rabia Javed stated.

Senior Holly Foreman said, "It's important stuff you need to know." Holly also added, comparing government and econ, "Government was mostly book work and lecture, econ was more activities and group work."

Senior Nedine Cunningham replied, "The classes taught me a lot about the real world. Econ taught me how to manage my money, file out my income taxes, and the best ways to purchase a home. Government showed me how government affects my life everyday and how much people influence the government."

"I liked econ. Mr. Lemond does a good job teaching it, and relating it to life," Rabia said.

Senior Josie Werhowatz stated, "I loved econ! Mr. Lemond taught me so much. I learned how to do taxes, and I learned about other things that I can use later on in life."

Even though government and econ are required classes, students found them enjoyable, helpful and interesting. Most students also agreed that government and econ should both be required classes.

...Christina Kostelnik





Senior Aaron Rhame listens to the lecture being given by his government teacher. Coincidentally, Aaron was chosen, along with eight other seniors, to represent Portage in the 'Youth Government Day' back in March. "Mayor" Rhame stated, "I thought it was a good experience to do before I left for college and an opportunity to experience something that I otherwise couldn't."



Seniors in Mr. Mundt's government class listen to a lecture. Government taught students important facts about the country's government.



While in Mrs. Ruzbasan's econ class, seniors learned how to trade stocks, write checks and just all around, succeed financially in the "real world".



← *Seniors Amanda Falck and Dawn Fessler examine the contents of their econoniics book. Both students agreed that econ should be required because they need it to survive in the real world. In econ, the teachers illustate the proper ways to balance a checkbook, file out taxes and other financial problems.*

Quotable Quotes

Q: Should government and econ be required classes ?

A: "No, because I think they are too boring, and nobody pays attention anyway."
Talia Ramsey,12



A: "Everyone should know about their country's government, and it should be required."
Daymon Johnston,12



A: "Yes, the basis of government and supreme courts. I think every student should know this."
John Jubiua,12





Senior Jayme Perez works intently on her government paper that was assigned as homework. Some of the students argued that not only was government boring to take, but also useless.



The nine Portage Youth Government representatives Dawn Fessler (council person), Jennifer Recktenwall (Clerk/Treasurer), Clay Davis (council person), Mike Rake (council person), Julie Giancola (council person), Chad Huffman (council person), Aaron Rhame (Mayor), Michele Baker (council person) and Kellie Poe (council person).

New Programs Adopted

Students views on change differ

The school year brought two new programs intended to help students . One of these was SSR, or Sustained Silent Reading, program. The other was the IPASS test, in place of ISTEP.

The administration allowed time between first and second hour for SSR. The program encouraged free reading of books or other material that students had chosen themselves.

"SSR is pretty cool because I have more time to read books," Bill Mick, junior, said.

There were a few complaints about the program, though. Most of these resulted from the schedule change that SSR caused.

Junior Julie Plunkett said, "It makes the day confusing. You never know when other classes are, but other than that I don't mind."

Like SSR, IPASS, which stands for Indiana Performance Assessment for Student Success, was given for the first time. It was given to a random group of students to determine how they would do when the test was given regularly as a graduation requirement.

"I don't think we should have had to take it now, but it is a pretty good test. It makes you think more than ISTEP did," Bryan Conger, sophomore, said.

While some students were happy to get out of classes for a week, most saw the test as more of a burden.

Senior Jill Malcom said, "The IPASS test messed up my classes, and I don't see why I should have to take it, since I'm a senior."

Although the test was an inconvenience to students taking it, they didn't have many complaints about difficulty.

"Some of the questions were harder than the others, but most of them were pretty easy," Jill said.

Bryan added, "Some of the math got tough, but the rest, like the English, was easy."

Whether enjoying a good book, or grueling over test questions, SSR and IPASS gave students two new programs to help them learn.

By Elizabeth Verbich

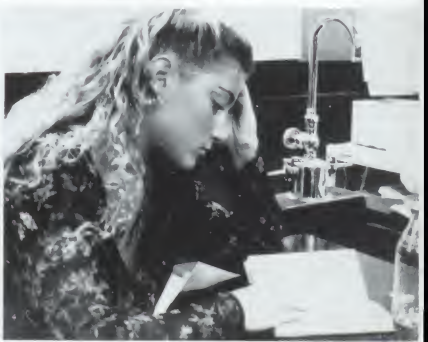




Senior Kevin Kerr relaxes his back against the wall in his weight training class. SSR was an important part of the education program on Wednesday. Every student, in both buildings, had to participate in the new founded activity. Most students didn't seem to mind taking time away from class to read materials they brought for themselves.



Freshmen William Busch, Kevin Payne and Larry Massey read the newspaper in their journalism class. Many students enjoyed reading the newspaper and catching up on current events.



Junior Kari Glans is deep in thought as she reads a novel she chose for SSR in her biology class. She spent the 25 minutes reading along with other students, waiting impatiently for SSR to end. Kari, like other students, thought SSR was a boring waste of time.



Sophomore Scott Moehl reads a magazine during class. Many students chose things other than books and novels to read during SSR. Although some didn't like SSR, most seemed to enjoy the extra time away from class.

Quotable Quotes

Q: Do you like SSR? Why or Why not?

A: "I'm reading a really cool book about dragons and sorcerers and demons.... It gives me more time to read." Donovan McKiddy, 12



A: "It's fun and it gives me an opportunity to read more." Marissa Vallejo, 10



A: "It gives students a chance to relax and take time away from classwork." Ralph Nurse, 12





Senior Matt Cullen rests his head against cushions in his weights class as he reads a book. Many students chose to not to bring their own reading material which resulted in reading teacher's material.



Seniors Justin Smith and David Netwon lounge around the weight room during SSR. No matter what class students were in, they had to drop eveything they were doing and read for the first 25 minutes of second hour.

Faces to Remember

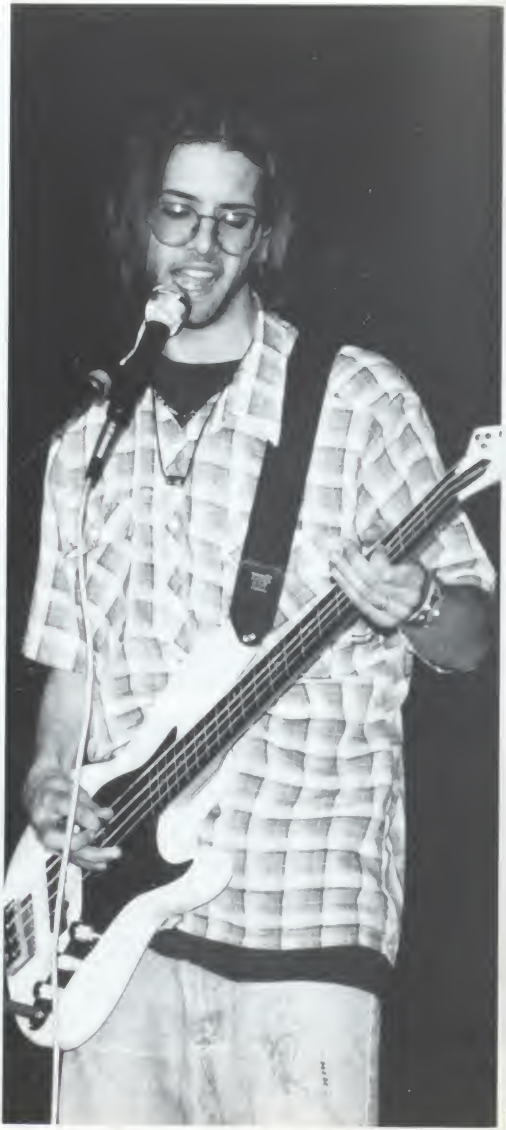
Members of the pep-band as well as football fans, gather in the east gym to rally the football team before the state competition. After the state football game, another pep-session was held, with even more attendance than the first.





Junior Shawn Stutler, a member of the Medieval club, drinks milk during lunch hour.

Junior Boyd Jones preformed an electric guitar solo during the variety show. Many students showcased their various talents.



We all planned to remember the people from high school. But, regardless of how the people looked in high school, life and age seemed always to change faces and bodies. This book recorded, the faces as they were, to start the memories and begin the journey back into the file held within your mind. The jokes, the tears, the friends, the foes, the loves. . . . Pictures bring back the memories of how things used to be. . . and the memories along with them..



Mr. William Bodnar was the master of cemonies at the Variety Show. Mr. Bodnar also usually dresses up as a hippie for the Airband competition but, was unable to make it this year due to a pre-scheduled vacation.

Arthur Ables- Honor Society 3, 4, Spanish club 4, Band/Stop 4, Hope 4
Clarence Ackerman -Symphonic Orchestra 3, Concert Orchestra 1,2,
Kevin Adams
James Adamski - Concert band 1, Wrestling 1
Araceli Addaeo

Michaela Ailes- Teacher/Media asst. 1,2,3,4, Marching Band 3, Indianettes 3
Anthony Alaniz -Wrestling 2,3,4

Dawn Alaniz -Latin Club 4
Erik Aleman

Faith Anderson
Jennifer Anderson
Michele Ayala
Angela Back -
Julie Bailey -

Tonya Bailey - Foreign Language Honor Society 3,4, Saga 4,
Virginia Bailey - Teacher/Media Asst. 3, Business club 4
Michele Baker -Student Council, Marching Band 1,2,3,4, Freshmann Band 1, Concert Band 3, Lab Band 2 Symphonic Band 4, Class Represen Olive 3, Prom Committee 3
Glenn Ballor -
Cipriano Banogon -

Clifford Barnett -
Angel Barron -Teacher/ Media Asst. 4
Synchronized Schools 12 Latin Club 4
Erik Barthel - Teacher/ Media Asst. 3,4
Medieval Soc. 3,4 Legend 4 Flowflow 4
Jennifer Bauer- Diving 2,3,4 Commodore 2,3
Amy Baum

Angela Beason- Peer Tutor 3,4
Katherine Belcher - Academic Letter 3,4 Legend 3,4 National Honor Society 3,4, DE Conference 2,3,4, Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,3,4 Chemistry Winds 3, Marching Band 2,3,4, Chamber Winds 3, Jazz Band 2,3, Student Council 3,4,5, Administration 3,4,5, Chief Justice 4, Speech/Debate Team 4, Thespians 3,4, HOSA 3,4, MU Phone Club 3 Book Club/Staff 3, French Club 3, Junior Class 4
Adam Bell -Baseball 1,2,3,4, Football 1
Benjamin Benefiel - Freshman Band 1
Julie Berry



Senior Roger Peele works quietly on his term paper for English. All seniors were required to complete the paper on a topic of their choice.












Jason Bon...
Jason Bovenkirk
Joshua Boyd
Robert Boyle
Nandi Brabba

Senior Amy James said, "The best part of my senior year was going to Hawaii over my Spring Break. I got a chance to be on my own and to better prepare myself for life after graduation."













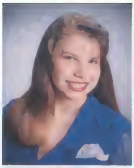








Jeannine Church 3,4 Marching Band 1,2,
Woodwind Ensemble 1 Concert Band 1,2, SADD 3,
SADD 2, 3,4, Flourish Club 1,2,3,4
Kimberly Chapman,
Melissa Charnow Academic Letter 3,4,
Marching Band 1,2,3, Freshman Band 1
Concert Band 1
Raymond Chavez
Tina Cherne







Amanda Childers Newspaper 3,4 Art Assn.
Marching Band 1,2 Jazz Band 3,4 Drill & Swing
1,2 Madrigals 3,4 Concert Ensemble 1,2 Stage Crew 1,2
Basketball 1,2,3,4,Cheerleading 1,2,3,4
Jason Chirba Jazz Band 4, Basketball 1





Senior Jason Imes dresses as a woman for the airband competition. Imes was a member of the "Time" which won first place.

Michael Cirak Wrestling 2
Jessica Clarke Yearbook Asst. 3,4




Melanie Clarke Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,
3,4, Concert Orchestra 1,2,
Christopher Connelly
Jeremy Cooper Academic Letter 3,4,
National Honor Society 3,4, Foreign
Language Honor Society 2,3,4, Cross
Country 1,2,3,4(Captain), Track1,2,3,4,
JETS 1,2,3,4,
Shannon Conner
Sean Conners National Honor Society
3,4, Soga 4,Hiller 4, Football1,2,3,4,
Hiller 4, Track 2,3,4







Jon Cook
Sarah Cook
Liam Cooper
Mary Crause
Jason Crockett National Honor Society
3,4, FBI Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Symphonic
Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Academic letter 4,
Cheerleader 1,2,3,4, Gymnastic 1,2, Track
1,2,3







David Crook
Kathryn Crun
Ann Marie Cruz
Trudy Cubbison Teacher Asst. 2,3,
Concert Orchestra 1,2,3,4, SADD/SROS
3,4
Shannon Culig Foreign Language Honor
Society 3, Freshman Band, Tennis 1,2,







Matthew Cullen Basketball 1,2,3,4
Kristen Cunningham Teacher Asst. 3,4, National
Honor Society 3,4, Concert Orchestra 1, Symphonic
Orchestra 2,3, Cross Country 2,3,4, Track 2,3,4,
Nicoline Cunningham Newspaper 3,4 Editor 4, Literary
Publication Staff 3,4, Art Assn. 3,4, Foreign
Language Honor Society 3,4, Spanish Honor Society
3,4, Spanish Club 1,2,3,4, Spanish
William Curran
David Czapla





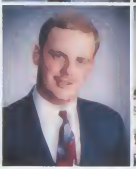













Jenny Mallory
Logan Darnell
Michael Dimmick
Clay DavisNational Honor Society 3,4, Basketball 1, Tennis 1,2,3,4, Student Council 2,3,4(Honorary Member) Intramural Volleyball 2,3,4, Intramural Basketball 2,3,4
Michael De Leon

Jason Dearmon- National Honor Society 3,4(Treasurer), Concert Choir 1, Symphonic Choir 2,3,4(Vice President)
Jennifer Deguzis-Thespians 2,3,4, Medieval Club 3,4
Norma DiazSymphonic Orchestra 1,2,3, Soccer 4, Volleyball 1
Steven Dick
Elaine Dicken


















Hillary Dillard- Sings in Drama Club 3,4 Pep Club 3,4, FCA 3
Jason Dixon-Marching Band 1,2,3, Symphonic Band 1,2,3, Concert Band 1-3

Shannon Dodd
Jennifer Dominguez-Basketball 2,3,4

Jason Dowden
Jennifer Drozniak
Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,3, Student Council 4(Class Representative), Thespians 2,3,4, SADD 3, SROP 1,2,3,4, Pep Band 4

Heather DuBay
Tonia Dudley
Jaime Dudley
Stephanie Dukes
Travis Duncan

Jessica Dutcher
Michelle Easterly

Jennifer Ebbelman
Frank Esaje-Cross Country 2,3,4, Track 1,2,3,4
Lisa Ezzo- Basketball 1, FCA 1, Softball 1, Soccer 1



Senior Rabia Javed listens intently as Dr. Robert Moon in her medical terminology class. This was the first year that the class was offered here.

Amanda Falck
Matthew Farnes
Dawn Fenske
Erwin Fetzner
Brent Fielder-Teacher Asst. 3,4
Intramural Basketball 3,4







Heather Finnerty-JROTC, Color Guard 1,2,3; Drill Team 1,2,3
Nathan Fisher




Dana Floyd-Teacher Asst. 3,4; Student Council Treasurer-Student Body Treasurer 3,4; JROTC Color Guard 1,2,3,4; Drill Team 1,2,3,4; Thespians 3,4; Secretary (SADD) 3,4; Volleyball Mgr. 1,2






Seniors Paul Chandler and Jason Imes enjoy dinner at the prom with their dates, senior Delora medina and junior Gia Fornari.

Shawn Fontanez
Holly Foreman-Teacher Asst. 3,4; Angel 1,2,3; Orchestra 1,3,4; Orchestra Rondo 2,3,4; Marching Band 1,2,3,4; Drum Major 4; Concert Band 1,2,3,4; Jazz Band 1,2,3,4; Symphonic Band 2,3,4
Rebecca Foster
Virginia Foster-Teacher Asst. 4; Marching Band 1,2,3; Lab Pit 1; Pep Band 2,3; Concert Band 3,4; JROTC Band/Orchestra 2,3,4; Opera Band 1; Color

Richard Fowble-Swing Choir 3,4; Jazz Band 3,4

Joy Franczek-Marching Band 1,2,3,4; Lab Band 1,2; Concert Band 3; Pep Band 1,2,3,4; Symphonic Band 4
Dana Franklin-Freshman Band; Drama and Dialetics 1; Choir 1; Lab 1,3
David Fravel
Gary Frizo
Emily Frechette-Academic Letter 3,4; National Honor Society 3,4; Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,3,4; Student Council 3(Class Representative) Cheerleader 3,4; Cross Country 2,3,4(Captain) Gymnastics 1,2,3; Track 2,3,4;







Christopher Fruehwirth-Swimming 1,2,3,4
Brian Fugate- Marching Band 1,2,3, Freshman Band, Concert Band 2,3
Richard Furnish
Heather Gaines-Teacher Asst. 4, National Honor Society 4, Marching Band 1,2,3,4, Freshman Band, Concert Band 2,3,4
Jeremiah Gannon







Bradley Gary- Football 1, Track 1,2,3,4
Jason Gary
Kristen Gerbick
Dwanne Giancola
Amanda Gibson- Marching Band 1,2,3, Freshman Band, Concert Band 3, Pep Band 1,2,3, Jazz Band 3,4, Symphonic Band 4


















Theresa Tabeo
Kristen Gillis-Teacher Asst. 4,
Theaspians 1
Lesley Glass
Timothy Golec-Pees Tutor 1,4
Jesus Gonzalez

Maribel Gonzalez
Brandy Graham-Teacher Asst. 1
Cheerleader 4, Business Club 1
Patricia Graham- Concert Choir 1,2,Girl's Glee 3,4, Symphonic Choir 3,4
Angel Gray
Jimmy Griffey





Stephanie Griffin- Jazz 1, 2,3,4, Marching Band 1,2, Antonio Gutierrez



Corinne Hafemeister-
Kraig Hammersley - Tennis 1,2,3,4, Capt. 4





Eric Hamilton
James Hampton
David Hancock
Eric Hart - Teacher/Media Asst. 2,3,4, Freshman Band 1, Concert Band 2, Hoosier Boy & State 3, Swimming 1, Track 1,3,4 Star Harty





Senior Josh Boyd pretends to sing a song at Airband. Josh was a member of the group Shine.

Melissa Hasty - Teacher's Media Asst. 4, Dew Wow 2,3,4, Editor-in-Chief 4, Quill And Scroll 2,3,4
Katherine Hatala
Geoffrey Hatfield
Craig Heldt
Bob Hensley - Teacher's Media Asst. 3,4







Brianna Hess - Academic Letter 3,4, National Honor Society 3,4, Foreign Language Honor Society 2,3,4, Track Club 1,2,3,4, Volleyball 2,3,4
Oswald Heyme II
Ryan Hicks
Christopher Hilley - Football 2,3,4
Heath Hitchcock - Orchestra, Winds 1,2,3,4, Marching Band 1,2,3,4, Concert Band 1, Symphonic Band 3,4, Jazz Band 2,3,4, Pep Band 2,3,4







Kimberly Hartle

Jennifer Hearn

Heather Hesterberg

Jill Hudson

Carrie Hunt

Jason Ines

Jamie Jablonski

Tammy Jacobs

Steven Jacoby

Amy Jones

Rona Jarvis

Michael Juac

Dalia Javed

Arlis Johnson

Elizabeth Johnson

Clayton Johnston

Krystal Johnston

Julie Jones

Jeremy Juszack

Thomas Kaminski

Richard Kane

Jill Kanter

Keri Kasznik

Jaime Kawiecki

Justin Kay

Megan Kelly



Bentley Muse, Brockett, performs a dance routine for cheerleading at a varsity basketball game. The cheerleaders took a big part in keeping the crowd entertained at the games.







Joshua Kennedy Concert Choir 12
Julie Cole Club 4
Kevin Kerr
Stacey King
Kelly Kingery
Lisa Klimecki







Amy Kish
Andrew Kish
Kara Kitchel Student Council
Honorary Member 12 Tennis 12,3,4
Bethany Kleckner FCA 4
Brandy Klinzmann

Neal Kling
Kelly Knapp Academic Letter 3,4 Teacher Medi Asst. 3,4 Class Secretary 4 Drug Committee 3 Tennis 3,4 Golf/Fall 1,2,3,4 Volleyball 1,2,3




William Knapp Teacher Medic Assistant 3,4 Physics Olympia 1 Football 1,2,3,4 Basketball 1 Mathew Knecht Peer Wor 3,4 Physics Club 1,2,3 Video Club 2,3




Jason Kolczak Timothy Kopec Teachers Medic Asst. 3 Basketball 3,4 Softball




Christopher Kosowski Beth Kozlowski




Harbeen Kuhar Swimming 1,2,3,4 Softball 1,2,3,4 Spanish Honor Society 3,4 Student Council Rep. Room 303 1 Yearbook Staff 3 Swimming 1,2,3,4 Softball 1,2,3,4 Spanish 1,2,3,4 Math Club 1,2,3,4 Math Team 1,2,3,4 Key Leader Committee 3,4 Student Council Room Rep. 3,4 Student Advisory Board 3,4 Homecoming Committee 3,4 Softball Varsity Letter 3,4 Softball Most Valuable Player 4






Senior Kelly Knapp, dressed as an Indian, jumps around the stage wildly while performing along with seniors Sherri Stamper, Yvonne Jaime, Tricia Swindle and Jennifer Fonner as The Village People.

Nicole Lind
Kyle Landrum - Concert Orchestra 1,2 Class Representative 3, Honorary Member 12, Thespians 1,2,3,4, Peer Tutor 3,4
David Lash
Jeffrey Lay
Mike Lee

Kimberly Lehocky - Tennis 1,2,4, Boy's Tennis Manager 3,4Symphonic Band 2,3,4, Medieval Club 2,3,4
Jeannie Lerch

William Lerose
Victoria Levan - Swimming 1,2,3, Captain 4, Boy's Swimming Manager 2,3,4

Denise Lily
Edward Lipinski

Marie Lukowski - Soccer 1, Class Representative 1
Michael Little - Football 1,2,3,4, Track 1,2,3
Stephanie Lo
Arlene Lopez
Jeanna Lopez - Prom Committee 3, Mom Pona 4, Concert Choir 1,3, Thespians 3

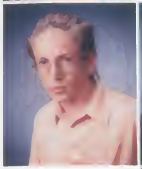
Kimberly Lowell
Erica Lund - Symphonic Band 2,3,4, Medieval Club 2,3,4
Robynne Lute - Academic Letter 3,4, Teacher's Aide Asst. 3,4, National Honor Society 3,4, Foreign Language Honor Society 2,3,4, Pit Orchestra 1,2,3, Symphonic Orchestra 2,3,4, Prom Court Princess 3, Homecoming Court Winter Princess 3, Drama 1, Basketball 1,2,3, Captain 4
Melissa Mahoney - Academic Letter 4, National Honor Society 4, Legend 2, Speech and Debate 3,4, Thespians
Jill Malcom - Girl's Glee Club 4, Concert Chorus 3
Daniel Mann - Basketball 1, Football 1, Track 12
Anne Manske - Academic Letter 3,4, Foreign Language Honor Society 3
Yannith Marenkovich - French Club 1,2,3,4, Intramural Volleyball 2,3,4, Volleyball 1,2,3
Stephanie Markow- Academic Letter 3,4, English Asst. 3,4, National Honor Society 3,4(Vice President), Legend 2,3,4, Marching Band 3, Speech and Debate 3, Student Choir 1, Girl's Glee 2,3, BOOST 3,4 (Founder and President), Secretary 3, Club 3,4, Tarasan Club 3,4(Secretary), 3(President), Junior Miss Finalist
Nina Marlin



Senior Jennifer Fonner dances to YMCA by the Village People at Airband. YMCA was a big hit at Airband as well as at most of the dances.









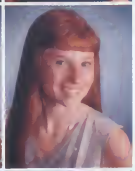
Charity Marsh - Marching Band 1,2,3,4, Concert Band 3, Jazz Band 1,2,3,4, Speech and Debate 1,2, Symphonic Band 4
Emily Martin
Christine Martinez - Teacher /Media Asst. 3,4,
Jesus Martinez - Teacher/Media Asst. / Saga 4,
John Mallory - Academic Letter 3,4

Gail Matthews
Jason Mauck - Academic Letter 3,4
Teacher/Media Asst. 4, Track LH 3,4,
Angela Mavermack - Saga 1, Concert Band 1,
Amy McCannon - Saga 1, Concert Band 1, Cross Country 1,2,3, Track 1,2,
Kelly McCardle - National Honor Society 4, Foreign Language Honor Society 3

Josh McCormack - [illegible] Asst. 2,3, Cross Country 4,[illegible] Symphonic Band 4,
Sarah McEwan - [illegible] Assistant 1,2,3, Interact 1,2,3,4, Academic Letter Society 4, Dist. Y-Teens 3,4, Dist. Treasurer 4, Peer Counselor [illegible] Junior 3,4,




Monica McIntire - Saga 1, [illegible] 1,2,3,
Lisa McKoy

Dominique McKelvy
Carmen Medina - Interact 2, Dist. Treas. Elect 3,4,




Jessica Mejia - Teacher/Media 3,4, Concert Choir 1,2,3,4
Christy Menendez




Katherine Metaxakis - [illegible] 1,2,3,4,
Christopher Meyer - [illegible] Band 1,2,4,






Senior Dan Leudke listens attentively in Government class. Government is a required class for all seniors in order to graduate.

Amy Michael

Cynthia Miller – Spanish Club Asst. 4, Mathletes Asst. 2,3,4, Jub Band 1,2, Concert Band 1, Symphonic Band 4, Clarinet Choir 3,4, Symphonic Choir 3,4, Drama Manager 4

Sandra Mills – Angel 1,4, Chamber Choir 3,4, Choir Officer 4

Brian Minick

Mandy Mickler – Academic Letter 3,4, Teachers Aide Asst. 3,4, Varsity Flag Section, 3,4, Basketball 2,3,4, Track 1,2,3,4, Volleyball 1,2,3, Yearbook Section 4 Layout

Carrie Mitchell – Yearbook/Media Asst. 3,4, Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Orchestra Welfare 3, Marching Band 1,2,3,4, Concert Orchestra 1,2, Concert Band 1, Jazz Band 2, Drama 3

Sarah Mitchell – Yearbook/Media Asst. 3,4, Choir Council 3,4, Pom Pon Squad 1,2,3, Spirit Committee 3, Pom Pon Captain 4, Spirit Committee 4, Miss Talent Winner

Thomas Mitchell

Matthew Mogavero

Brandy Moore – Marching Band 3

Marcos Morales – Academic Letter 3,4, National Honor Society 3,4, Soccer 2,3,4, Student Council Honorary Member 4

Robert Morales – Music Letter 3

Concert Choir 3, Symphonic Choir 3,4, Chamber Choir 3, ISHSMA First Level 2,3, Division Solo 2,3, Comp

Mary Morrow

Christopher Moseley

Aaron Munoz

Michael Murray

Karl Nagy

Richard Nagy

Alina Nazzer – Colorful Influence Letter

Daniel Nelson

Darcie Newberry – Teacher/Media Asst. 4, Mathletes Council, Vice Representative 3, Academic Monitor 4, Drama Committee 3, Tennis 2,3,4, Manager Boys Tennis, TCA 3,4, SADD/SADD 3,4

Sarah Newhall

Lloyd Newton – Track 2,3,4, Academic Letter 3,4, National Honor Society 4, Foreign Language Honor Society 2,3,4, Jr/Sr Prom 3,4,

Michael Nichols

Victoria Nikonchuk

Jeremy Norman

Kimberly Nusbaum – Teacher/Media Asst. 3, Alabama Band 1, Concert Band 1, Symphonic Band 2,3,4, Volleyball 1,2,3

Dushnila Obradovic – Teacher Aide Asst. 4, Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Foreign Language Honor Society 4

Michelle Olivencia – Pom Pon Captain 4, Student Council 4, Captain, Track 1,2,3,4, MVP Cheerleader



Seniors Tom Mitchell and Ralph Nurse enjoy their long awaited senior priviledge of driving to school. Juniors are also allowed to drive.







Amanda Cox | George Ann Crocker | Jennifer Dahl | Jennifer Dahl | Jennifer Dahl

Jessica Preyitt
Clinton Pullen

Michael Rake Student Senate Assembly 1,2 Class 3,4 Soccer Club 2, JV 3, 4 Track 3,4
Amy Raman 4-H 1,2,3,4 Drama Productions 1,2 Choir 4

Toba Ramsay Key Club 1,2,3,4 Yearbook 1,2
Sandra Rattray

Michael Ramus SADD 4
Ryan Reager

Jennifer Recktenwall Prom Committee 3, Prom Princess 3, Fall Queen 4, Winter Princess 3, Volleyball 1, Golf 3
Edward Reibly
Sabrina Reid
Joseph Rendela Basketball 1, Soccer 1,2,3,4(Captain) All Conference Soccer 4
Aaron Rhame Soccer 1,2,3,4(Captain)

Jessie Richeson
Ryan Ritter Concert Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Jazz Band 2
Michelle Rivera
Kimberly Robertson
Angela Rockwell Academic Letter 4, Foreign Language Honor Society 3,4 Honor Roll 4 Yearbook Activity Dance 4

Ramonita Rodriguez
Brian Rogers Academic Letter 3,4, National Honor Society 3,4, Pit Orchestra 2,3, Symphonic Orchestra 1,2,3,4, Swimming 1,2,3,4(Captain), National Merit 4
Michael Rogers
Tamara Rose Swimming 2
Theresa Rossman



Senior Sherri Stamper dances at the winter homecoming dance. She was elected queen by a popular student body vote.












Mark Bahlmann
Tina Daub Teacher/Media Assistant 2
Concert Choir 1,3,4, Girl's Glee Club 2,3, Chorsiters Crew 1,2,3,4
David Duelke Freshmen Band 1
Jessica Gallee
Alynne Sanders Thespians 3,4 (President) Girl's Glee Club 4, Chorsiters 4

Dustin Sendovnik Cross Country 1,2,3,4, Track 1,2,3,4 All-State Cross Country 2 Wm Saunders Academic letter 3,4, Teacher/Media Assistant 3,4 Foreign Language Honor Society 3,4
Katrina Schaefer Teacher/Media Assistant 4 National Honor Society 3,4, Cheerleader 1,2,3,4, S.A.D.D. 1,2,3,4 (President) Psych Club 1,2,3,4 (President) Winter Princess 3, Fall Queen 4
Tara Scheenaga
Kurt Scheller Marching Band 2, Freshmen Band 1, Concert Band 2, Jazz Band 1,2,3,4, All-State Band 4, Symphonic Band 3,4
Jonathan Schiller




Thomas Schmidt - Baseball 2,3,4, Football 1, Wrestling 2,3
Meagan Sedan Pom Pons 2,3,4




Christina Shaw Concert Orchestra 1, Basketball 1, Softball 1,2,3,4, Peer Tutor 4
Kevin Shaw Cross Country 1, Track 2



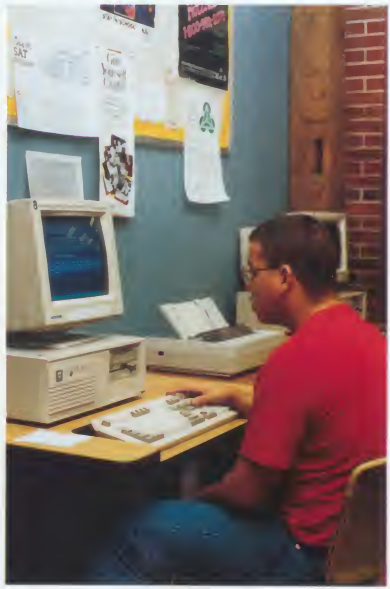

Daniel Shirley Track 1,2,3,4
Melissa Sibley




Amy Silverthorn
Russel Smola Marching Band 1,2,3,4, All-State Band 3,4, Jazz Band 2,3,4, Baseball 1, Football 1,2,3, Symphonic Band 3,4




Rosalie Skolish Academic Letter 3,4, National Honor Society 3,4, Class Representative 2,3,4, Diving 2,3,4, Football 1, Swimming 2, Tennis 3
Cheryl Skolak



Senior David Czapla types during his lunch hour. Many students took advantage of their lunch hour to finish homework, or type papers or to simply enjoy a healthy meal.

Joshua Skelton
Christine Smith

Lindsey Smith
Cassandra Smith

Justin Smith
Emily Smith

Daniel Snow
Sherri Sauger
Christin Stanley
Rebecca Startup
Nicole Stout

Melissa Strengle
Leonard Stringer
Michele Suddath
Linda Sullivan
Lauri Summers

Wayne Swanner
Christopher Swanson
Michelle Swanson
Sean Sweeny



Senior Jennie Lerch dances to the ever-popular song YMCA by the Village People at the Winter Homecoming dance.












[illegible] Swi[illegible] [illegible]
Melissa [illegible]
Nicole Szmuk
[illegible] 4 [illegible]
[illegible]

Alisa T[illegible] 4 [illegible]
[illegible]
Erik T[illegible]
Kristyn T[illegible]
Monica T[illegible]

Michael Thompson
[illegible] Thompson

Bryan T[illegible] Football [illegible]
Bryan T[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]

Christopher T[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Track 4

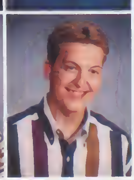
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Senior Ryan Banogan displays his State Runner-Up Football Ring. The entire football team was given the opportunity to purchase these rings.

Vanessa Vargas Volleyball 3 Assistant Ring of Security 4
Jennifer Vasquez

Amber Vaught
Track Yearbook

Tonya Vega
Cathy Vela Anchor, Spirit 3,4 Homecoming Queen 3,4 Miss Bonez Basketball Queen 3,4 Student Council 3,4 Powder Puff 3,4 Pep Squad 3,4 Cheerleader 3,4 Student Council Treasurer 4

Kenny Veltz
Soccer Yearbook

Jennifer Vio
Miss Vio Reader/Media Assistant 3,4, Interact 3,4
Sarah Waddle Reader/Media Assistant 4, Song 3,4, Photo Club 3, Girl's Club 3,4
Shelley Walker
Terry Waselchuk

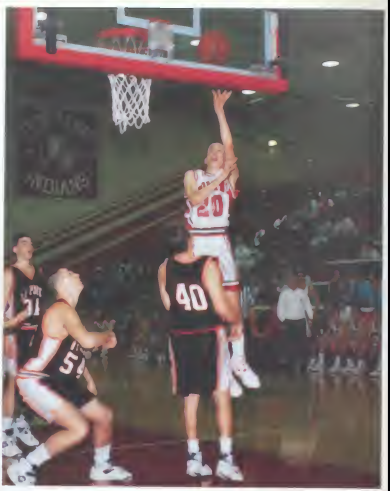
Darrell Washington Football 3,4, Track 3,4
Faith Watson Drill Team 3,4
Heather Waugh Cheerleader 3, Interact 3,4, Student Council 3, Yearbook 3,4, Photo Club 3, Ambassadors 3,4, Girl's Club 3,4
Jesse Weber
Jason Weeks Football 3,4, Basketball 3,4, Track 3,4
Jessica Westerkamp Cheerleader 3,4, Student Council 3,4, Yearbook 3,4, Interact 3,4, Ambassadors 3,4, Girl's Club 3,4
Amanda West
Heather Westerkamp Cheerleader 3,4, Student Council 3, Yearbook 3,4, Interact 3,4, Ambassadors 3,4, Spanish Club 3, Spanish Honors Society 3, Powder Puff 3, Track 3,4, Softball 3, Photo Club 3, Ambassadors 3,4
Jamie Whitted
Dwayne Whittington











Junior Tommy Bonez takes a jump shot over a LaPorte opponent. The whole team created a memory for the class of 1995 with a Winter Homecoming victory.



















Christina Walker
Jason Walker
Missouri Walking
Jennifer Wall
Tyrone Watkins
William Waters III
Heather Williams
Ashley Williams
Jennifer Wilson
Stephanie Wilson
William Winebrenner
Kirt Wiseman



Jennifer Wisniewski
Charles Wishmeier



Carlyle Withrow
Michelle Witt



Dee Wilford
Jennifer Wolf



Danny Wright
Jessica Wright



Stephen Wu
Jill Wuerside





Looking forward to the Dare, seniors elect the least Senior Trip. Schoenigh observes a demonstration in her medical terminologies class. Seniors could begin earning college credit in this class and get a head start on their future plans.

Yearbook of . . . 95

Places To Remember







Senior co-captain of the football team, Dave Ortiz proudly shows off his State Runner-up football championship ring. All of the football players had reason to be proud since this was the first year since 1977 that Portage High School has made it the state football game. The entire football team was given the chance to purchase the rings, which was a great way for seniors especially to go out in style.

Junior David Reynolds is fouled during a home game against LaPorte. David contributed greatly to the Indians success.

Senior Ryan Banogan was sidelined after the first home game due to a knee injury. Ryan went through numerous knee surgeries throughout the season so he did not return to the field, but he never missed a game.







Junior Tim Bingham crashes on his desk during SSR in Mrs. Smock's Algebra II class. Sustained Silent Reading was a new reading program where students brought a book or a magazine every Wednesday to their 2nd hour class.

Vahona Aimutis
Joel Alderson
Christopher Alsop
Bryan Anderson

Shawn Arden
Rhonda Arend
Sonny Armato
Joey Auskalnis

Brandon Austin
Robert Bacon
Eric Bailey
Scott Bailey



Susan Bailey
Brett Baker
Alicia Balazs
Cheryl Banke
Carlos Barajas
Jason Bardsley
Jeremy Barker
Samantha Barnes

Jennifer Bartley
Andrea Batista
Brian Bauer
Chris Bauknecht
Christopher Beach
Kristin Behling
William Bendt
Randall Berry

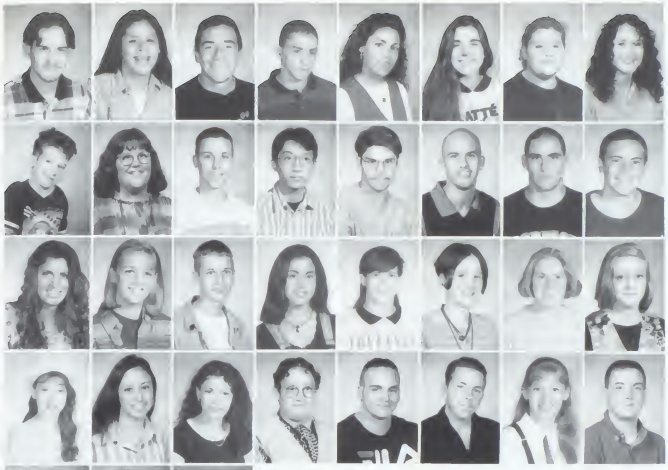
Cynthia Bickham
Kristy Bilderback
Timothy Bingham
Michelle Blackburn
Kaimi Blaha
Cybil Blinko
Timothy Blouir
Thomas Bonez

Christopher Bonner
Jeffrey Boone
Stephen Brajcki
James Brasseur
Johann Breunig
Michelle Brigham
Janel Brink
Michael Brockway

Karl Brown
Kevin Brown
Michele Brown
David Brubaker
Jennifer Buergler
Jacqueline Builta
Duston Bullard
Patrick Burton

Ryan Burton
Jason Byers
Jesseme Bysong
Catherine Campbell
Jamie Campbell
Maria Cantu
Jennifer Cap
Andrea Cardenas





Rodney Carnahan
Brandy Carrillo
David Casillas
Tony Castillo
Julie Castro
Erica Cates
Windy Caudill
Latisha Cavanaugh

Daniel Chase
Lisa Chasko
Brian Chelich
Karl Cheng
Christopher Childers
Aaron Chinn
Joseph Christian
Eric Christy

Kimberly Cipich
Jessica Circle
Zachariah Civlins
Kathy Claudio
Derek Clem
Kelly Clendaniel
Michelle Click
Stacey Clifford

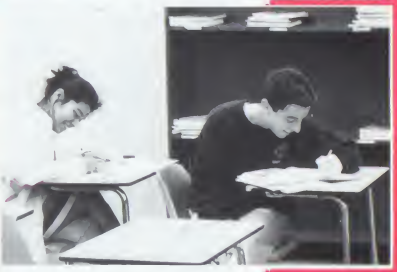
Kelly Clouse
Amanda Cohen
Yvette Colorado
Mauro Clounga
Joshua Cooper
James Corbett
Susan Corley
Martin Costello



Marco Covarrubias
Eric Cox
Daniel Crawford

Teri Creason
Kelly Creech
Robert Crews

Christie Crider
Richard Crider
Jerry Criswell



Juniors Isela Galindo and David Casillas work on their Spanish homework in Mrs. Peda's Spanish III class. Many Students took a foreign language for college, while others took it to learn a different language.



Melissa Cronch
Jason Cronin
Bobbie Crowder III
Kelly Crowe
Stephan Crowell
Catherine Crowley
Kevin Crownover
Jayme Cundiff

Scott Curran
Jerry Cyprian
James Daniel
Suzanne Davey
Erica Davis
Sean Davis-Cohen
Tina De Los Santos
Mark Dean



Students in Mr. Parker's U.S. History class review their tests. Some Juniors thought that it was a hard class, while others thought it was easy. All Juniors had to take U.S. History in order to graduate.

Jodie Deckard
Daniel Deemer
Jeremy DeHaven
Kimberly DeJesus

Miguel Delgado
Matthew Demko
Kevin Dennis
Patricia Deoca

Kevin DeVries
Sara DeWitt
Sara Dexter
Jeromie Disser



Nicole Domenech
Richard Dowden
David Dozier
Dan Duffee
Cristal Durfee
Christopher During
Will Edmonds
Steven Eisel

Stacey Ellerman
Kevin Elliott
Kristy Elsey
Dawn English
Elsie Espinosa
James Espinoza
Frank Essany
Kelly Fallon

Susan Fancher
Timothy Fast
Melissa Fekete
Stacy Fenchak
George Ferguson
Shawn Fidler
Heather Fields
Jonathan Fields

Lisa Fields
Jose Fierro
Tina Fingerhoot
Frances Fink
Kristine Flick
Michael Foley
Norman Ford
Giannina Fornari

Jennifer Fox
Chad Franks
Michael Frederick
Deanna Fultz
Ryan Gabey
Aaron Galindo
Brandon Galindo
Isela Galindo

Phillip Garcia
John Gardner
Elizabeth Garner
Daniel Garus
Nicole Gass
Elizabeth George
Chad Gerhart
Joseph Giangiulio





Wendy Gilbert
Timothy Glancy
Kari Glans
Kenneth Goad
Helena Golarz
Alexander Gonzalez
Fernando Gonzalez
Miquel Gonzalez

Veronica Gonzalez
Sarah Gorski
Heather Granzow
George Graves
Elijah Gray
Samantha Greenwell
Amanda Griffith
Phillip Grigalanz

Mark Gronek
Michael Grutsch
Christopher Gulbransen
Michael Gurevitz
Michael Guth
Angela Gutierrez
Jennifer Haddon
Jason Hallenbeck

Henry Hammond
Rebecca Hamstrom
Susan Hamstrom
Nicole Hardaway
Michael Harkins
Sherlyn Harrington
Derek Hart
Michael Hartman

Kimberlee Haskell
Tami Hasse
Jason Hastings

Michael Hatala
Scott Haverstock
Heidi Hedstrom

Denise Henderson
Tabitha Henderson
Rick Henk

Joseph Henry
Nathaniel Henson
Christina Hernandez

Peter Hernandez
Shawn Heyse
Kelly Hill

Record File

Why ASVAB?

Juniors took the ASVAB, the Armed Service Vocational Battery, that helps determine the best occupation for individuals. It had different categories like electronics, math, reading.

The military uses the test to save money by placing individuals into the right occupations when they join the military

Sgt. Baker, recruiter, said, "The test looks for math, reading comprehension, and other skills." Sgt. Baker also stated, "You have to take ASVAB to be in the military."

But the ASVAB is not only a military test.

Guidance counselor Ms. Pamela Downard stated, "ASVAB measures developed abilities and predicts what a person will accomplish with further education." Ms. Downard also said. "Any student that isn't interested in the military should just say no when the recruiters call."

Many juniors feel that ASVAB is an important test.

"I didn't see a purpose of it at first, but then I saw it was for career choices. It helps you decide what career to go in, "junior Jessica Hufford stated.

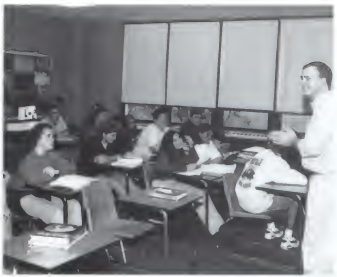
"I think it's a good test because you can tell if you can work in a field," junior Tabitha Henderson stated.

Some students didn't see the importance of ASVAB.

Junior Matthew Hutmacher said, "It's important if you want to go into the marines."

"I think it's dumb. I think you should be able to make your own decision whether or not you want to take the test," junior Lindsay Kurczewski stated.

By: Christina Kostelnik



Students in Mr. Bendicsen's Psychology class listen to a lecture. Many students took Psychology as a class because it was enjoyable and helpful in many career choices. Students were able to take it as juniors and seniors.

Kevin Hilley
Nichole Hilzley
Megan Hodges
Steven Hodgson

William Hoffmann
Ronald Holland
Paul Holliday
James Holman

Jami Holman
Jonathan Hoover
Laszlo Horzsa
Jamy Hotchkiss



Christopher Huerta
Jessica Hufford
Jamie Huntsman
Matthew Hutmacher
Kenneth Hyde
David Ilgen
Larry Jacobs
Shawna Jacobs

Kimberly Jakob
Eric Jaso
Renata Jefimenko
Heather Johnston
Jennifer Johnston
Amy Jones
Anthony Jones
Boyd Jones

Carrie Jones
Dustin Jones
Eric Jones
Scott Jones
Jennifer Juhasz
Gregory Kaletta
Nicholas Karris
Edmon Karsten

Michael Kegley
Michael Kelley
Shane Kelley
Megan Kester
Helen Kidwell
Jeffrey King
Tiffany Kirchner
Joanna Kirczuk

Margaret Kirk
Tammy Kiser
Beth Klakoski
Peter Klassen
Bryce Klimek
Christopher Kludt
Anna Klumpe
Monika Klys

Todd Kobitz
Tracy Koehler
Richie Koesema
April Koukol
Brian Kral
Jason Kriess
Michael Krueger
Patricia Kubeck





Charles Kukla
Lindsay Kurczewski
Jason Lach
Deanna Laird
Cassie Lamb
Stacy Lauper
Brian Lazinski
Michael Learman

Stacy Lee
Jason Leismer
Amanda Lemond
James Lenburg
Anthony Lennex
Teri Lesko
Lori Lesnick
Jeffrey Levenda

Susan Lewis
Ricky Littlefield
Kelly Livingston
Daniel Lomax
Jonathon Lopez
Jennifer Lorance
Christie Lovings
Jessica Low

Patrick Lynch
Michael Lyon
Michael MacDonald
Christopher Mace
Brenda Manion
Andrew Mann
Jason Mann
Jason Manna

Abigail Marcinkovich
Jason Marcotte
Jeffrey Marrs

Trisha Martin
Matthew Martinez
Percio Martinez

Shannon Martinez
Eric Mason
Raymond Mayernik



Juniors Cindy Bickham,Carol Prigge and Amanda Cohen enjoy their time together away from class. Most students looked forward to lunchtime where they could get together with their friends.

Kelly McAllister
Michael McBride
Lauren McCall
Shaun McCance
Joshua McCaslin
Jennifer McCulloch
Holly McCune
Rebecca McDougal

Matthew McFarland
Ryan McGuire
Jodie McHargue
Robert McKay
Carmen McKee
Mark McKinney
Michele McLean
Nicole McLean



Junior Teri Lesko prewraps junior Lisa Chasko's ankle in Intro to Athletic Training class. In Athletic Training, students learned how to palpate, elevated and rehabilitate injuries. Many students chose to take it as an elective.

Angela McWhirter
Kirstin Mead
David Meade
Sherry Meeks

Steven Meeks
Tracy Melcher
Courtney Melvin
Ruben Mendez

Tiffany Mendizabal
William Mick
Rebecca Miles
Craig Miller



Tiffany Miller
Cory Mitchell
Jason Monacy
Jaime Monhaut
Richard Morgan
David Morris
Nick Morris
Kimberly Moseley

James Mote
Matthew Movre
Kimberly Mrak
Robert Muir
Carrie Mulvihill
Jessica Mundell
Annette Munoz
Nicholas Munoz

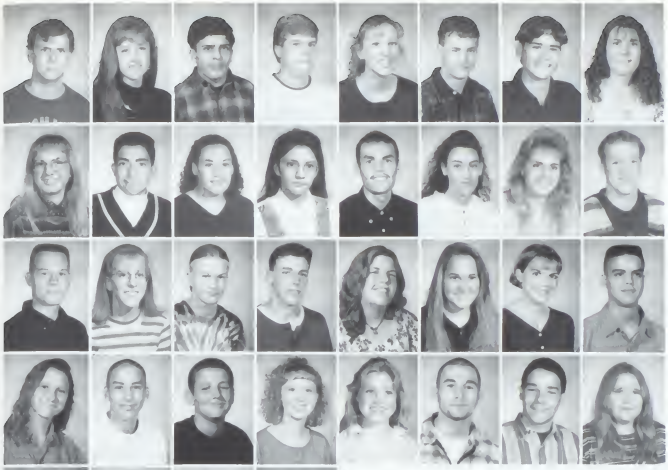
Sarah Murphy
Erika Murrow
Wendy Neeley
Bridgette Nelson
Bryon Nelson
David Nelson
Stacey Newcomb
Aaron Newman

Ricky Newman
Jaime Neyhart
Lesley Nicholson
Joseph Nikos
Julie Nurse
Timothy O'Neal
Sherry Oboyle
Christine Ochoa

Thomas Orange
Gena Ortiz
John Ortiz
Samantha Ortman
Terrence Oslizlo
Kathryn Ostertag
Scott Overbey
Tommy Overbey

Heather Owens
William Owens
Robert Ozbolt
Joseph Ozug
Evonne Pagan
Crystal Palmer
Daniel Paniaguas
Loretta Pardubn





Jeremiah Parker
Erica Parsley
Nikil Patel
Scott Pawlick
Toni Paxson
Paul Payne
Carl Pedone
Rebecca Pelke

Jodi Penland
Adrian Perez
Adriana Perez
Doris Perez
Ruben Perez
Amanda Petretta
Karen Piatek
Nathan Pickett

Eric Pickford
Amy Pierce
Michael Pierce
Ian Pittman
Julia Plunkett
Jennifer Pollard
Shana Pollock
Abraham Pomales

Melissa Popple
Terry Posavac
Ryan Press
Jill Priest
Carol Prigge
Dale Pryle
Chris Psihogios
Dione Pulsoni

Jeremy Putman
Christy Ramian
Julie Ramian
Matthew Ray

Robert Ray
Ryan Reber
Robert Reed
Steven Renner

David Reynolds
Kevin Rhodes
Candice Richardson
Delfin RiosIII

Vincent Ritchie
David Rivera
Nancy Rivera
Nicole Robbins

Alfredo Rodriguez
Danette Rodriguez
Marcus Rogala
Heath Rogers

Record File

SAT's Needed ?

Students feel SAT's are necessary for many reasons. Some feel they're needed for preparing you for college.

"I think they're needed, but I think they shouldn't be taken completely serious, considering it doesn't give you a complete outlook of the person's ability to think," said senior Dan Shirley.

Junior Sherry Meeks stated, "I think that they're needed to find your IQ level."

Some students think they're necessary for college and that they're stressful.

Senior Cindy Miller said, "SAT's are necessary and they're stressful."

"I believe they're necessary, because they show what a student can really do," said senior Ginny Foster.

Senior Carla Brickley stated, "I think they're needed to get into college, but if you're not going to college then they're not necessary."

"They're necessary because it prepares you if your going to college," said junior Lindsay Kurczewski.

"I feel that they're a good idea to have them to see what you've achieved during high school," junior Amanda Petretta said.

By: Stacy Lemley

Christina Ronco
Christina Ronk
Brandie Rootkie
Shannon Rose
Theodore Rosenquist
Krysta Rousseau
Tandye Rowe
Christopher Rowland

Francisco Ruelas
April Russ
Shawn Russum
Jill Rzepka
Jennifer Sako
Laura Salyer
John Sams
Ryan Samuels

Irvin Santana
Kristina Santonelli
Kevin Sawyer
Jennifer Scegiel
Jaime Scherff
Traci Schmal
John Schmidt
Carrie Schnelle

Julie Scholz
Sean Scott
Amy Scribner
Eric Serrano
Eric Shasteen
Ronald Shively
Melanie Shultz
Lana Siegel

Jennifer Siminski
Joshua Simmons
Anthony Singleton
Carrie Sipich
Daniel Sisk
Jason Skolak
Timothy Slamkowski
Elizabeth Slatton

Christy Slease
Alicia Smith
Curtis Smith
Heather Smith
Jaclyn Smith
Kristeen Smith
James Smith Jr.
Stacey Smolnicky

Natalie Sosa
Michele Soto
Jake Spears
Lisa Spence
Leslie Sprague
Christopher Spurrier
Vanessa Spurrier
Jenene Stafford

Thomas Stafford
Sheila Stalbaum
Louis Stanko
Carrie Stanley
Dawn Tannettee Stano
Michele Stanton
Crystal Starr
Buddy Statum

Kari Stauffer
Michael Steege
Michelle Stegner
Christina Stokes
Shellie Stout
Sabrina Strong
Jason Sturgeon
Shawn Stutler





Rhonda Sulcer
Gene Surprenant
Lisa Sutton
Bridgette Swab
William Swerdon
Stephanie Szmutko
Eri Takao
Richard Tarin

Carolyn Taylor
Kenneth Taylor
Travis Thatcher Curtis
Aron Thompson
Christy Thompson
Christina Tidwell
Michael Tilford
Cristina Timmons

Laura Tinnel
Christina Torchia
Valentine Torres
Arthur Torrez
Adam Trinks
Heather Tranzow
Tonya Tucker
Tammy Tutko

Casey Van Santen
Jaqueline Van Vleet
Louis Varner
John Vasas
Natalie Vasquez
Luis Vasquez
Damien Ventura
Vanessa Vespo

Salina Viera
Amber Vittetoe
David Voss
Joseph Vrska
Jerry Waggle
Robin Walczak
Shawn Walker
James Wallace

Terry Wampler
David Warren
Alan Washburn
Dawn Watson
Jennifer Watson
Jamie Webster
Jeremy Welches
James Weldon

Nickolas Wellman
Daniel Wendrickx
Robert Wendrickx
Jimmy Whited
Shawn Whitson
Christopher Whitten
Gregory Whitten
Dawn Wildrick

Keri Williams
Mark Williams
Michael Wilson
Tobey Wilson
Lisa Wineinger
Christopher Wineland
Stephen Winicky
Crystal Woodard

Arthur Wright
Jeremy Wysuph
Shannon Yon
Paul York
Jason Zaideman
Kelly Zaparucha
Jason Zell
Lovcene Zimmerman



Sophomores enthusiastically cheer for their football team at the pep rally for state. The pep rally was held in the East gym 10th hour.

- Carey Ackerman
- Karen Adams
- Rose Alaniz
- John Allison

- Susan Altgilbers
- Michelle Anders
- Gina Anderson
- Marissa Anderson

- Matthew Anderson
- Brian Andrews
- Heather Andryuk
- Cory Angle



- Ray Angotti
- Elijah Armes
- Glenn Arwood
- Matthew Atherton
- Melissa Austin
- Tabitha Bailey
- Anthony Ballor
- Chris Banke

- Anthony Banks
- Ricky Barber
- Tim Barich
- Jessica Barniville
- Anthony Barszcz
- Christopher Beach
- Matthew Beals
- Joaquin Bedolla, Jr.

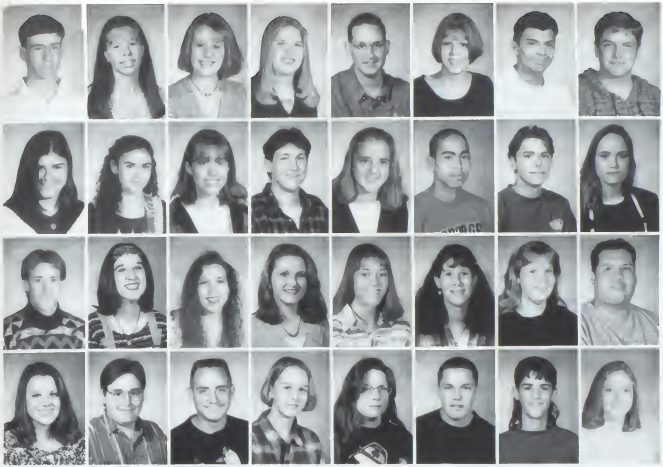
- Andrew Berger
- John Billings III
- Cheryl Blackburn
- Clifton Blackenship
- Paul Blanton
- Anthony Blaszkiewicz
- Sandra Bledsoe
- Matthew Bogart

- Amber Bogold
- Jennifer Boksa
- Ryan Bonner
- Sandra Book
- Ronald Boozer
- Sonja Boruff
- Robert Bosstel
- Brian Bough

- Dollie Boyle
- Sarah Bradford
- Joseph Braselton
- Brooke Brennan
- Adriane Breyfogle
- Kenneth Brown
- Lori Brown
- Carl Buergler

- Toni Builta
- Rebeca Burton
- Jennifer Bush
- Lisa Butala
- Jill Bysong
- Jeramie Cadle
- Breanna Cain
- Lisa Camacho





- Jeffrey Camp Jr.
- Heather Campbell
- Crystal Cannon
- Melissa Carpenter
- Jade Casteel
- Jennifer Cavezza
- Jason Chabes
- Gabriel Chaddock
- Nicole Chagoya
- Cristina Chandler
- Chris Chapman
- Nicholas Chapman
- Kelly Charbonneau
- David Chavez
- Ty Chavez
- Jill Childers
- Michael Childs
- Teresa Chillemi
- Amber Chizmar
- Cheryl Choisser
- Amanda Cichowlaz
- Heather Ciesielski
- Stephanie Clark
- Esteban Claudio
- Corrine Cleland
- Nathanial Clough
- Joshua Clouse
- Jennifer Cloyd
- Susan Coapstick
- George Cobb
- Benjamin Collins
- Mary Collins



- Stephanie Collins
- Bryan Congar
- Jeffrey Connell
- Shane Connell
- William Connors
- Shondra Conrad
- John Conrick
- Steven Cook
- Jason Copeland



Freshman Brian Bryniarski and sophomore Kim Spoa slow dance at the Christmas Dance. Few sophomores attended the dance with freshmen.



- Joshua Coppinger
- Lisa Corbett
- Alejandra Cornejo
- Nicole Corral
- Jennifer Cotton
- Robert Covington
- Amanda Crawford
- Anthony Creech
- Jason Creech
- Michele Cronch
- Frank Crowley
- Jason Crownover
- Nora Cuellar
- Christina Cunningham
- Alexander Curiel Jr.
- Rachael Daily

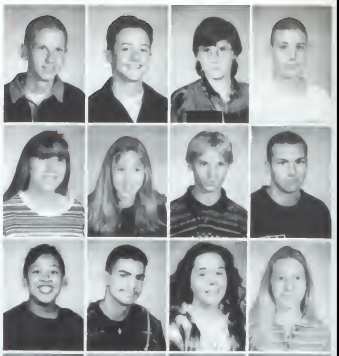


Students rush to catch their buses after school. Sophomores were looking forward to driving to school this year, but were told they couldn't.

- Aaron Daniels
- Brian Davenport
- Marc Davich
- Casey Davis

- Holly De Planty
- Kristy Dec
- Marcus Dedina
- Jordan DeHaven

- Petra DeJesus
- Ismael DeJesus
- Nina Delgado
- Rebecca Delhaye



- Derek Demmon
- Carlos Diaz
- Julian Diaz
- Brandi Dicesare
- Dustin Dickerson
- Lisa Dobos
- Shawn Dodd
- Melissa Dolby

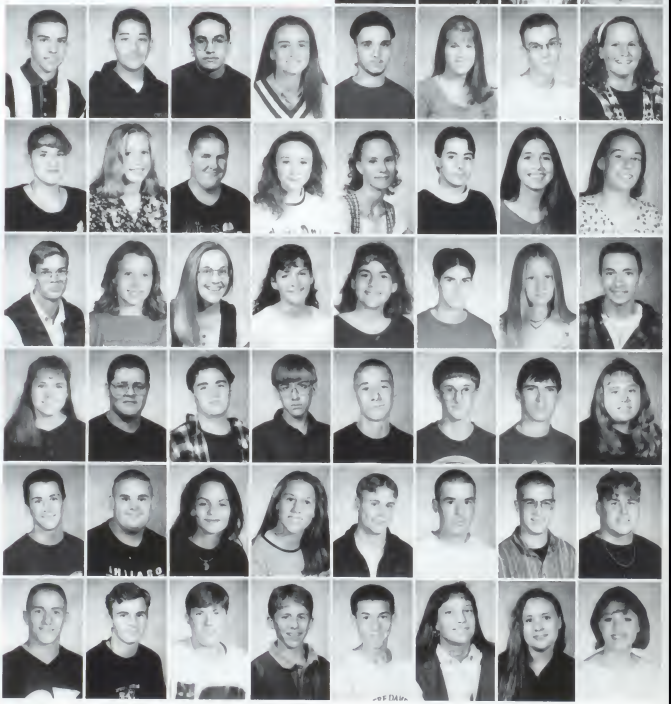
- Amy Dominick
- Kimberly Dudek
- Destri Duffee
- Katie Duncan
- Tina Durham
- Joseph Durk
- Beth Duron
- Stacey Durr

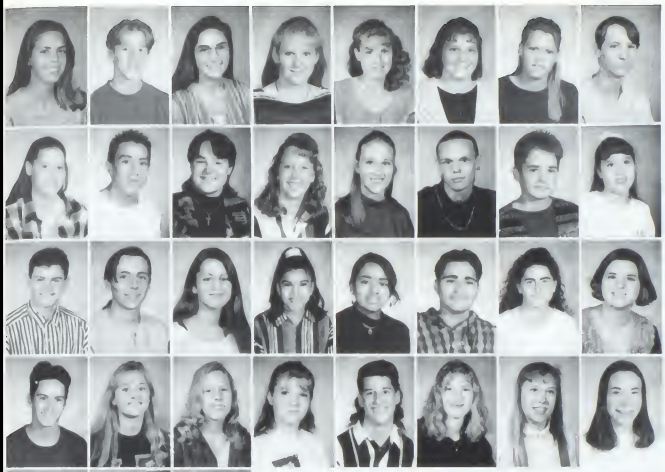
- Robert Earl II
- Rebecca Easton
- Megan Edmonds
- Jamie Eierman
- Jodie Eierman
- Andrew Elderkin
- Becky Elliott
- Carlo Ernandes

- Amy Erway
- Christopher Espinoza
- Dustin Evans
- Joshua Eyermann
- Jeffrey Fain
- Jason Falkowski
- Shane Faulkner
- Alicia Fedor

- Aaron Fenters
- Shane Fields
- Betty Flores
- Jennifer Floyd
- Daniel Forney
- Michael Forney
- Michael Forrest
- David Frailey

- Philip Frechette
- Charles Fruehwirth
- Jeffrey Fuerst
- Joseph Gabey
- Timothy Galati
- Heather Gapinski
- Susan Gary
- Erin Gatewood



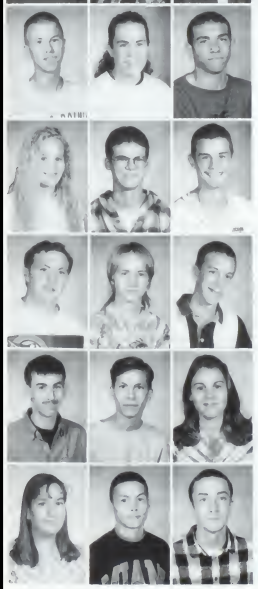


Angela George
Scott Gerbick
Meagan Gerkin
Mindi Gilbert
Shannon Gillie
Kristie Gilmore
Heather Gish
George Glorzbach

Mary Gnat
Edwin Gonzalez Jr
Kimberly Gorgei
Rebecca Gorsich
April Grasham
Steven Green
Timothy Green
Janis Greenburg

Charlie Greer
Jeramy Gruber Zaideman
Cynthia Grunden
Gabriella Guerra
Kavita Gupta
Jose Gutierrez
Jamie Haack
Shanna Haack

Anthony Hailey
Diana Hale
Wendy Hammond
Tiana Hardesty
Kevin Harding
Michelle Harman
Nikki Harper
Bridgett Harsh



Daniel Harvoth
Cynthia Hatala
Casey Hauswirth

Theresa Hazzard
Steven Heck II
Micheal Heckman

Bryan Hedrick
Budd Hefright
Christopher Heldt

Jason Hendrickson
Mark Henning
Tani Hensley

Jeannette Hernandez
Jason Herring
John Hillier

Record File

Sophomores Out of the Driver's Seat

Should sophomores be able to drive to school?

The administration decided that because of overcrowding of cars and other past experiences that sophomores should not be able to drive to school, but the sophomores weren't too happy about this rule.

•"We should make everybody but the sophomores leave their cars home for a day, see how they like it. I guarantee they would change their minds real quick." Sophomore Penny Needs.

•"Next thing you know the principals are going to be driving us to school." Sophomore Betty Flores.

•"It really doesn't matter to me if I can drive to school or not until I have a car to drive, but if I did drive to school I would be quite mad." Sophomore Eugene Harvey.

•"I'm sure the teachers got to drive to school when they where sophomores." Sophomore Jill Childers.

•"I don't think the administration should be able to tell anybody that they can't drive to school." Sophomore Erin Gatewood.

•" They (the administration) should build a bigger parking lot if they don't think there is enough room. It isn't right to say sophomores can't drive to school." Sophomore Steve Green.

The sophomores still weren't driving to school at the end of the year, but they are looking forward to driving to school next year.

by Roxie Vallangeon



Sophomores Steve Kinder, Izzy Dejesus, Nathan Mundt and Chrissy Cunningham pose on the sophomore float at the Fall Homecoming parade. The sophomore class received second place for their float.

- Edgar Hilzley
- Juan Hinojosa
- Lang Hoang
- Samantha Hodsden

- Sydney Hodsden
- Jessica Holtzman
- John Homolla
- Cari Horne

- Charles Hoskins
- Tina Housler
- James Hudson
- Teresa Hudson



- Bryan Hunt
- Joseph Hunt
- Meaghan Husted
- Heather Hutmacher
- Autum Hyde
- Rashad Ibrahim
- Shannon Imes
- Melissa Iwan

- Kristy Jablonski
- Danielle Jackson
- Micheal Jackson
- Loretta Jacobs
- Rachel Jamieson
- Paul Jarrell
- Clifford Jenkins
- Amy Johnston

- Brandi Jones
- Mary Jones
- Tiffany Jones
- Heather Jongsma
- Micheal Joseph
- Nord Joseph
- Casimira Jurgensen
- Jeremy Kaiser

- Jason Kawiecki
- Jaimmie Keeling
- Robert Keffer
- Amanda Kegley
- Jennifer Kelly
- Lani Kelly
- Stephen Kinder
- Crystal King

- David King
- Christi Kirincic
- Casey Kirkpatrick
- Lindsey Klisiak
- Jeffrey Knapp
- Martin Knight
- Michelle Kniola
- Christina Kostelnik

- Jill Kozrowski
- Joy Krejci
- Shanna Krok
- Heather Kucsera
- Thomas Labus
- Patrice Lafoy
- Ryan Lang
- James Lash





Theresa Lavendusky
Ryan Laws
Brianne Lee
Kristen Lee
Brieana Lees
Shannon Leisch
Stacey Lemley
Theresa Lentner

Sarah Lerch
Lisa Levenson
Dessa Lewandowski
James Lewis
Jeremy Lewis
Robert Likavec
Michelle Lilly
Michael Livengood

Vonnie Loeffler
Robert Loomis
Thomas Loomis
Christina Lopez
Aaron Lowe
Stephen Lugo
Robb Lukasik
Jacqueline Luttrell

Nicholas Lyman
Sarah Mahns
John Maliziola
Melinda Manna
Joseph Marsh
Jennifer Martinez
Amanda Martus
Scott Matlock



Amy Matthew
Christopher Mavronicles
Gregory Mays II

Mary Mazurek
Stephanie McCaw
Jamie McDowell

Eric McEwan
Amity McKiddy
Brian McWilliams

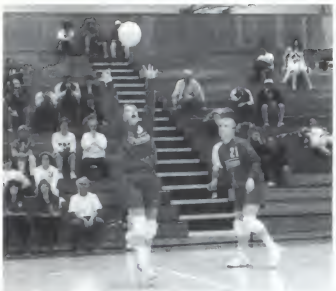


Sophomores show their team spirit at the pep rally for Winter Homecoming. Many sophomores showed their school spirit by attending the pep rally.



Marcella McColly
Shaun McConnell
Scott McDonald
Ryan McGuffey
Rick McKee
Robert McKinney
Bryan McMaster
Courtnie Melton

Jacob Mendez
James Mendez
Yvette Menendez
Catherine Merrit
Mark Messinger
Laura Mick
Alan Mietzner
Kevin Mikaloff



This is a generic caption with little relevance to real life, except that the first sentence is present tense and the second is past tense, per specifications. This caption self-destructed upon entry of factual but not obvious information.

- Brandon Miller
- Michael Miller
- Scott Miller
- Tima Miller

- Lisa Minor
- Samantha Minton
- Scott Misner
- Scott Moehl

- Clayton Molden
- Tony Molina
- Melissa Mongoven
- Mignon Montpetit



- Tabitha Moore
- J.D. Morales
- Jerry Morris
- Jaclyn Mrak
- Joseph Mrak
- Cheryl Mullin
- Susan Mullins
- Nathan Mundt

- Daniel Murray
- Jill Murray
- Zachary Murray
- Lindsay Najar
- Ted Najzar
- Sarah Natalie
- Penny Needs
- Elizabeth Negron

- Jason Nelson
- Jeramy Nelson
- Misty Nelson
- Micheal Nemeth
- Darren Newberry
- Nicole Nickoles
- Valerie Nixon
- Joseph North

- Timothy Nush
- Jaime Nygra
- Jeremy O'Neal
- Misty Oatsvall
- Dennis Odisho
- Paul Odonovan
- Ezequiel Olmo
- Felix Olvera

- Shaun O'Neill
- Margaret Opolski
- Phillip Orr
- Kenneth Orris
- Elizabeth Orsolini
- Jennifer Oshea
- Kathryn Owens
- Amanda Palmateer

- Michael Pappas
- Ryan Parker
- Anthony Parrigan
- Michael Passarelli
- Crystal Patrick
- Janelle Peek
- Michelle Pelot
- Paul Penix





Trena Perrine
Joshua Perryman
Sarah Peute
Michael Pickering
Courtney Pierce
Buddy Pierce
Eric Pilnock
Chad Pio

Timothy Pirowski Jr.
Douglas Pofahl
Kelley Ponda
Bethany Popple
Jason Pratt
John Price
Charles Puskac
Denise Rambo

Anthony Ramirez
Richard Ramos
Edward Recktenwall
Steven Reibly
Jessica Reid
John Reisinger
Dannette Reno
Jaclyn Repay

Albert Reyes
Nilda Reyes
Kortney Reynolds
Jace Rhea
Jason Rice
Robert Richards
Ryan Richmond
Bruce Riffle



Amber Riley
Joseph Ring
Bridget Ripperdan

Andrew Ristau
Randi Ritter
Dominic Rivera

Sara Robbins
Kim Robinson
David Rodich

Henry Rodriguez
Dana Rogers
Frances Roman

Kenneth Roth
Griffen Roubideaux
Tiffany Rounds

Record File

Life after school full of Responsibilities and fun

School's Out! For many, the sound of the last bell marks the beginning of their day. Whether it's racing home to watch the latest talk show or staying after to practice for a sport, the sophomore class members always find something to keep them occupied.

For many, earning extra cash is what keeps them occupied. "After school I do a lot of babysitting. It's really fun and making cash is right up my alley," Sophomore Beth Duran said.

Many students have after school jobs that keep them busy. "I had a job at KFC; it kept me very busy," said sophomore Betty Flores.

Some students are too busy with after-school activities to have a job. "I can't have a job. I'm too busy with other things to go out and get a job," sophomore Steve Green laughed.

For others, after school activities and sports occupy the majority of their free time. "I'm in cross country and it takes up a lot of my spare time, but it's worth all the hard work." Sophomore Jeff Fain added.

"Being in SADD /STOP and contributing to my youth group in church takes up a lot of my time, and also sleeping whenever I can is what I like to do." Sophomore Beth Duran explained.

"Going to the mall with my friends, skiing during the winter and doing homework is what I do in my free time." Sophomore Kelly Kreischer stated.

Whether it's hanging out with friends or participating in an after school sport, the sophomores always seem to occupy their free time.

by Kelly Crowe



Sophomore Scott Sworden enjoys wearing his new class ring. Almost 200 sophomores bought class rings this year.

- Kristopher Rowe
- Marc Royce
- Alice Russ
- Jennifer Russell

- James Russell Jr.
- Bethany Sabin
- Nicole Salyer
- Douglas Samuel

- Patrick Sanchez
- Stephanie Sandor
- Noel Santiago
- Stephanie Santos



- Lise Sarich
- Geraldine Sarnowski
- Ernie Sasser
- Justin Sawochka
- Jason Sayer
- Kimberley Scheeringa
- Stephen Scheier
- Krista Scheller

- Kristopher Scherff
- Stephanie Schultz
- Corey Schumacher
- Craig Scott
- Lauren Sefcik
- Carol Selby
- Jennifer Serynek
- Michelle Shadley

- Peter Shaw
- Courtney Shebesh
- Nikolas Shields
- Talea Shorter
- Kelly Shoup
- Carina Simmons
- Courtney Simmons
- Jason Simpson

- Joshua Sims
- Elizabeth Singleton
- Jami Sipich
- Amanda Siroky
- Nathon Sisco
- Susan Skolak
- Sarah Sloan
- Thomas Smedley

- Daniel Smith
- Derinda Smith
- Nicole Smith
- Steven Smith
- Curtis Snellgrove
- Michelle Sparks
- Melissa Spence
- Carisa Spicer

- Kimberly Spoa
- Jennifer St Julien
- Jennifer Standish
- Charles Staninger III
- Eric Stanley
- Robert Starr
- Sean Steele
- Brian Stevenson





Kristin Stevenson
Kyle Stone
Amanda Strain
Robert Strom
Aja Strominski
Benjamin Strupeck
Sonja Sturges
Melissa Sulitz

Susan Sullivan
Joseph Sullivan Jr.
David Sultzer
Nissa Svantner
Scott Sworden
Fawn Tarne
Tom Taylor
Cortnie Thiel

Brandy Thomas
James Thomas Jr.
Chad Thompson
Tracie Timpe
Christopher Ton
Jose Torres
David Torres Jr.
Esther Torrez

Machelle Trosper
Dawn Tucker
Damion Unland
Lashauna Urbanik
Jennifer Urchick
Roxie Vallangeon
Marissa Vallejo
Phillip Vargas

Lisa Vaughan
Leroy Vega
Robert Vega

Gabriel Vega Jr.
Elizabeth Verbich
Melissa Virden

Michelle Vogt
Trisha Vottero
Charles Vukovich

Amy Walker
Michael Wall
Jennifer Walworth

Bryan Warchus
Albert Ward
Christopher Ward

Record File

Class Rings

Did you buy a class ring?

Many sophomores bought class rings to remember their high school years. A lot of students were excited about receiving their rings. When they received their rings they had fun showing them off. Some students didn't get their class rings. Others just waited.

•"I bought a class ring because I wanted to give it to a girl," sophomore Matt Anderson.

•"I bought one just because I wanted to have one," sophomore Stephanie McCall.

•"I decided to get one so I could have it to remember high school," sophomore Jimmy Lewis.

•"I didn't buy one because I couldn't find one that I liked," sophomore Jr. Gonzalez.

•"I was too busy to find some time to buy one," sophomore Scott Murray.

Approximately 200 sophomores purchased themselves class rings this year. Class rings can be quite expensive. They can range anywhere from $50 to $350. Many students wanted class to buy a class ring but could not afford the one that they liked. A lot of sophomores went all out and bought themselves the best ring they could find.

by Roxie Vallangeon



Sophomores celebrate the victory dance in honor of "The Big Red Machine's" big win . This years homecoming victory was the first in four years.

Ronnie Ward
Jacob Warner
Heather Waters
Adam Wathen

Julie Weber
Luke Weinman
Eric Wells
Christopher Westerkamp

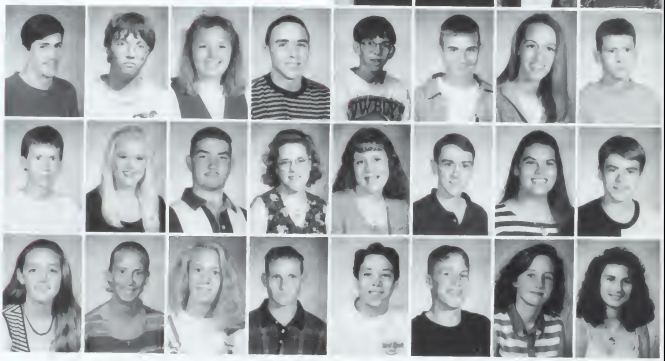
Amy Whitworth
Jacob Wick
Chad Wildrick
Terry Will



Matthew Williams
Barry Wilson
Nikke Witninger
Shaun Wishnevski
Justin Wisniewski
Robert Witt
Trisha Woods
Adam Wysuph

Kurtz Wysuph
Amanda Yates
Matthew Yoder
Cindy York
Wendy York
Zachary Zagar
Laura Zielinski
Jon Ziemer

Angela Zolkowski
Karin Zurcher
Kristin Zurcher
Matt Fisher
Michael Lopez
Nicholaus Rajski
Nicole Shasteen
Brandy Taylor





Sophomore Jake Warner successfully takes down his LaPorte Slicer opponent in the home match which Portage won.



At the Homecoming game, sophomore Syd Hodsden cheers for the basketball team. The Pom Pons got new uniforms through fundraisers.



Amber Riley, sophomore performs a routine on the uneven bar. The gymnastic team's elegance and hard work paid off, giving them the record of 6-2.





Sophomore Jessica Arredondo shows off her fashion and style while getting into her locker. Many students expressed their personality through their clothes this year.

Sophomore Samantha Hodsden received a variety of laughs when she performed a monologue at the variety show. A lot of sophomores performed at the variety show this year.

















Record File

My Greatest Memory of Being a Sophomore Is...

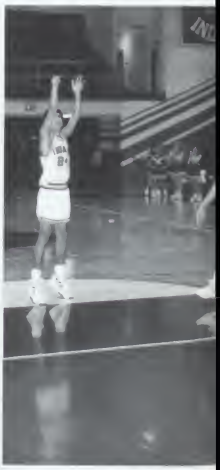
"...going to my first drill meet for ROTC. I had never been to one, and I was so nervous!"- Sarah Natalie, 10

"... when we got that bomb threat. It was very scary to think that it could actually happen here."-Scott Moehl, 10

"...how great the football team did by going down to state and only losing once."-Jennifer St. Julien, 10

"...the Christmas Dance because I just had the most awesome time!"- Michelle Harman, 10

"...going down state with the cross country team because it was the greatest time of my life!"-Jeff Fain, 10











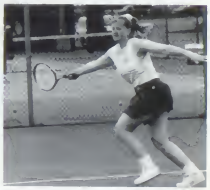


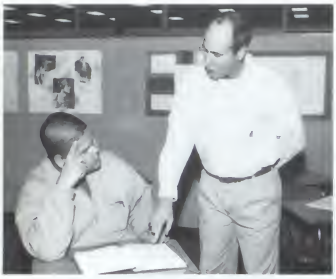












Nathan Ozug concentrates while Mr. Tom Sanidas explains the story "The Most Dangerous Game" in his Literature class. The Literature class read various selections like "Romeo and Juliet" and "Great Expectations" through the year.

Steve Adams
Michelle Ahlfeld
Adam Alaniz
Christopher Alex

Jacqueline Alfaro
Sandra Alfaro
Carlos Alvarez
Timothy Armenta

Michael Arwood
Richelle Ashby
Jason Attinger
Shannon Aubuchon



Patricia Badillo
Bobby Bailey
Elizabeth Bailey
John Bailey
Darrell Bailey, Jr.
Natalie Balakir
Theodore Balboa
Keri Ann Baldridge

Tasha Ball
Kathrine Ballas
Rebbecca Ballinger Harris
Johnny Bangs
Betty Banks
Daniel Barajas
Sandy Barajas
Kristen Bartley

Jason Barwig
Natalie Bates
Michelle Batista
Emily Bauer
Heather Beach
Jessica Becke
Missy Bedroya
Steven Benke

James Bennell
Alisa Bethel
Theresa Bickham
Terry Black
Holly Blake
Shanna Blanton
Anthony Blystone
Kristy Boggs

Tara Bonds
Kelly Bonner
Thomas Boomsma
Kristian Boruff
Jacob Boyd
Thomas Boyd
Isaac Bragdon
Paul Brajcki

Aaron Branham
Marc Brannon
Faith Branshaw
Traci Ann Bretts
Amanda Brewer
Elizabeth Brown
Keith Brown
Mary Brown



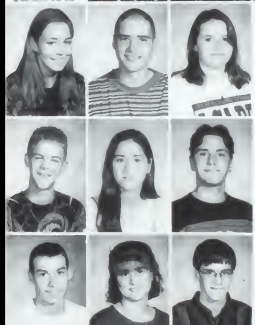


Jason Bryan
James Bryant
Brian Bryniarski
Jamie Buchanan
Michael Buckmaster
Jeremey Buckner
Ryan Bull
Elizabeth Bunker

William Busch III
Heather Bush
Jeanette Campbell
Jodie Campbell
Christopher Cardenas
Justin Carr
Nicholas Carrillo
Rosa Carrion

Shawna Carter
Trisha Castagna
Percy Castillo
Shellie Catherman
Elizabeth Cattani
Danielle Cauley
Nick Cerda
Jennifer Chapman

Ray Chapman
Holly Chinn
Brooke Chirila
Chad Chitwood
Timothy Chizmar
Jennifer Christian
Anthony Cimbaljevich
Leacia Circle



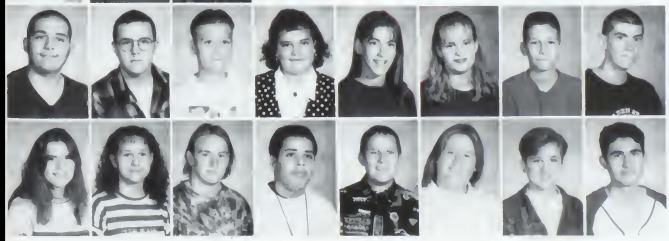
Rebecca Clay
Thomas Clendaniel
Rebecca Clouse

Donald Cochran
Leslie Coello
Steven Coffman

Steven Conder
Andrea Connelly
Brian Conner



Marshall Newbold spikes the ball to his opponent Melissa [illegible] Park's 2nd hr. gym class. The gym class had different teams [illegible] had competitions. They participated in many different activi[illegible] dancing and weights.



Roy Contreraz, Jr.
James Conway
Michael Cook
April Cooros
Tracey Corey
Melissa Cowsert
Robert Cox
Kevin Crawford

Heather Cresap
Shaun Crider
Matthew Critzer
Andrew Cruz
Jim Culig
Crystal Cummings
Erin Daege
Alexander Daich



Freshmen T.J. Black, Marc Tarpley and Jeremy Melton have some fun between classes. While some students cannot find the time to have fun and excitement between bells, these guys sure do.

Heather Danielewicz
Chadwick Darnell
Jennifer Darnell
Martha Davaney

Joshua Davis
Melissa De Bord
Richard Dean
Kimberly Deboe

Brianna Degener
Irene Dejesus
Michael Delph
Edwin Dewar



James Dewitt
Thomas Dicken
Charles Dills
Carisa Dixon
Keith Dombrowski
Louis Dominquez
Jessica Dozier
Andrew Drake

Michael Dranchak
Kennith Driver
Brian Duncan
Jennifer Dunning
Jason Dusz
Nicole Easton
Rose Ebling
Amber Echterling

Lee Eckhart
Eric Eliason
Michael Ellerman
John Emmet, Jr.
Natasha Erdelen
Joseph Ernst
Eric Erway
Victoria Ethelman

Naomi Espinosa
Monica Essig
Bryan Evans
Kelly Evans
Ryan Falck
Jason Farley
Melissa Fejes
Winter Felinski

Sara Fields
Aaron Finco
Jillian Finnerty
Jennifer Fisher
Cheryl Flach
Amanda Flanagan
Hollie Fleming
Kevin Flick

Michael Flores
Melissa Fluck
Natalie Fornari
Jeromie Forystek
Estil Francis
Jason Frazier
Theresa Frechette
Brian Freeman



1994



Christopher Freville
Philip Gagna
Melissa Gales
Arturo Gallardo
Scott Gamblin
Sarah Gasienica
Damien Gass
Rebecca Gatewood

Elaine Geeting
George Geren, Jr.
Carlos Germain
Daniel Gesmond
Jesse Gibson
Michael Gibson
Kristy Gilbert
Michael Goffredo

Karina Gonzalez
Laura Gonzalez
Lydia Gonzalez
Terry Graham
Mary Green
Jason Greenwell
Marcy Greer
Ronald Gresham

Homer Griffey
Aaron Gulbransen
Angie Gutierrez
Bianca Gutierrez
Julie Hale
Krystal Hale
Elden Hall
Nicole Hall



Ralfie Hamerski
Jennifer Hamilton
Kristel Hammerstein

Amber Hammond
Amber Hardin
Richard Harty II

Kristen Hasselgren
David Hasty
Adam Hatten

Laura Heck
Mark Heckman
Patrick Helmecy

Charles Henderson
Michael Henderson
Kimberly Hendley

Record File

Freshmen Target Destination

Many people have goals for themselves they hope to achieve sometime during their high school career. When the freshmen entered P.H.S. for their first day of school, they had many expectations for themselves.

Most freshmen have educational goals that they hope to accomplish during high school.

"My high school goal is to graduate with an honors diploma," freshman Ben Hoffman stated.

Freshman Pat Conway agreed, "My goal is to graduate with an honors diploma."

Freshman John Hutchins remerked, "To get on honor roll."

Freshman Mike Sullivan said, "My goal is to 'excellerate' in my education."

Many students just hope to graduate from high school on time.

"My goal is to graduate from high school," freshman Holly Roberts stated.

Freshman Corey Schnarr said about his goal,"To graduate from high school."

Other students hope to get involved in extra curricular activities.

"My high school goal is to get on the yearbook staff," freshman Kathy Rea said.

The Freshman class members have many different goals for themselves. Some students hope to participate in school activities, while others hope to do well academically. Whatever they may be, goals are important targets for accomplishment sometime during high school.

by Christina Kostelnik



Freshmen Tiffany Pullen, Irene DeJesus and Mary Brown danced to the popular YMCA song by The Village People. Many students celebrated the football victory at the dance.

Shawna Hennings
Donna Henrichs
Tova Henson Gajdik
Fred Hernandez

Marisa Hernandez
Kristi Hesseltine
Michael Hill
Amanda Hise

Holleah Hitchcock
Jennifer Hodge
Michelle Hodges
Benjamin Hoffmann



Danyeall Hofmann
Michael Holland
Joe Holloway
Jessica Hoover
Michael Hopkins
Sarah Hopp
Michelle Hostetler
Nicholas Hotchkiss

Leah Huddleston
Natalie Huffman
Stephanie Huffman
Nicholas Hufnagl
Jason Hunt
Jodie Hunt
Johnmichael Hutchins
Aragorn Ilg

Manuel Infante
Elisabeth Ireland
Diandra Irvin
Stefanie Iwan
James Jacobs
Andrew Jacobson
Joseph Earl James
Gabrielle Jaremczuk

Fahad Javed
Jennifer Johnson
Melissa Johnson
Sarah Johnson
Thomas Johnson
Tonya Johnson
Erin Johnston
Mikeal Jones

Daniel Kaletta
Daniel Kaminski
Stephen Kaminski
Shane Kary
Abigail Kay
James Keaton
Dustin Kelley
Cary Kellogg

Detra Kidwell
Daniel Kim
Stephen Kinlaw
Jacob Kleckner
Jeremy Kleckner
Chad Koebcke
Jessica Koons
Ryan Korbar





- Jeremy Korem
- David Kornacki
- Jamie Kornacki
- Jennifer Kowalczyk
- Tiffany Kowalczyk
- Jennifer Kozik
- Brent Ksenak
- John Kuehl

- Aaron Kujawa
- Jennifer Kuzma
- Nickolas Ladra
- Ginger Lapine
- Christina Lawrence
- Bridget Leeper
- Daniel Lehman
- Mary Lennex

- Heather Leon
- Deborah Lesko
- Kristen Levan
- Michael Lewandowski
- Timothy Lewandowski
- Jonathan Lewis
- Jamie Liebe
- Steven Lindsey

- Robert Livengood
- Melissa Lloyd
- Shannon Longmore
- William Loubriel III
- Theresa Loving
- Stacey Low
- Melissa Lowe
- Bryan Lucas



- Timothy Lucas
- Tiana Lugo
- Michael Luick

- Kirk Lyons
- Sherry Lytel
- Leticia Macias

- Steven Malarik
- David Maldonado
- Justin Malenky



Freshman Chris Freville concentrates on his geometry lesson while Mrs. Clapp explains the homework assignment assigned the day before.



- Kristine Manion
- Michael Manske
- Monique Martakis
- Christopher Martin
- James Martin
- Catherine Martinez
- Daniel Martinez
- Gina Martinez

- Michael Martinez
- Joseph Martus
- Julie Mason
- Larry Massey
- Jennifer Mauck
- Richard McCall
- Nicholas McDougal
- Jeff McKee



Freshmen Joe Hall, Jenny Darnell, Megan Stout and Marshall Newbold dance the night away at the Christmas Dance. Many freshman came to the dance with their dates.

Kelly McWilliams
Keely Mead
Darin Medlin
Jeremy Melton

Aragon Mendez
John Metaxakis
Rose Meyer
Ross Meyer

Shannon Meyer
Jaclyn Meza
Marc Mihalik
Corey Miles



Chadwick Miller
Heather Miller
Melissa Miniel
Stephen Mirich
Elizabeth Mirr
Jason Monhaut
Daniel Moore
Lisa Morrisroe

Brandon Mowbray
Charles Muir
Timothy Mulvihill
Patricia Muniz
Mark Murphy
Regina Muth
Michael Myers
Mike Myers

James Napier
Ronald Necco
Christopher Nelson
Marc Nelson
Megan Nelson
Timothy Nelson
Marshall Newbold
Jeremiah Newhall

Patrick Newton
Jason Niloff
Sarah Noll
Robert Oakes
Mike Odisho
Melissa Oliver
Jason Ortiz
Richard Ostertag

Kathryn Ostrander
Laura Owen
Jonathon Owens
Nathan Ozug
Melyanda Pacheco
Kristina Pall
Dawn Pappas
William Parnell

Nicole Parsley
Erica Passaloukos
Erin Patrick
Kevin Payne
Raymond Peda
Patience Pedone
Alicia Pedroza
Michele Perkins





Juleen Pezel
Danielle Pickart
Yvonne Piehl
Aikea Pittman
Stacy Porter
Bradley Press
Tkayline Pridmore
Toby Provins

Carla Pugh
Ricardo Pulido
Tiffany Pullen
Todd Pulsoni
Thea Putman
Tony Racich
Erica Radic
William Rajski

Kelley Ramian
Micheal Ramos
Jacquelyn Rattray
John Ray
Michael Ray
Kathleen Rea
Kimberly Reedy
Rebecca Reibly

Melissa Reiley
Peter Remm
Kristopher Replin
Eric Reynolds
Sabrina Reynolds
Kelly Rich
Trisha Richart
Ruby Richier



Jason Richmond
Lindsay Rickard
Michael Riley

Michael Rio
Dustin Ristau
Aaron Rivera

Amy Rivera
Jennifer Rizi
Holly Roberts

Stacy Roberts
Christopher Rodgers
Abraham Rodriguez

Edward Rodriguez
Jesse Rollins
Theresa Romero

Record File

In the Past

For freshmen, ISTEP, the Indiana State Test of Educational Progress, is now in the past. The freshmen have other tests in the future, possibly the IPASS, if the state gets the money for it.

Most freshmen were happy that this was their last year of ISTEP.

Freshman Patricia Badillo said, "I think it's great; I'm happier about it."

"I feel relieved because you don't have the pressure if you're going to pass or not," freshman Jessica Hoover said.

Some freshmen thought they should not have to take ISTEP during their freshman year.

Freshman Brianna Degener said, "I don't think so because we take them through school, and they should know how smart we are by now."

Others agreed, "Because you take them in elementary and middle school," freshman Shawna Hopkins said.

Jessica said, "No, because you have more stuff to worry about other than ISTEP."

Some freshmen think you should have to take the ISTEP or don't know if they should or not.

Freshman Michael Hopkins said, "I think they're a good idea. I don't have much experience with them."

It really doesn't matter; they're just tests," freshman Stephanie Spenner said.

Some freshmen are scared of just the thought of taking ISTEP.

Freshman Shawna Hennings said, "I'm scared, not knowing if I'm going to pass or not."

For freshmen this may be their last year of ISTEP, but they still have a long road ahead of them, at least in testing.

by Stacy Lemley

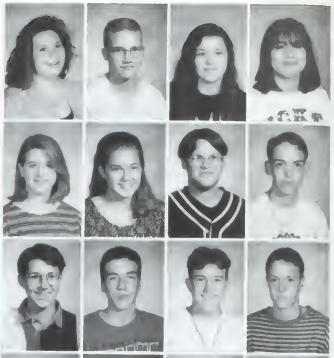


Freshman Richelle Ashby danced the night away with sophomore Mike Jackson at the Christmas Dance. The theme was "Let it Snow."

Gerri Rouse
Adam Royce
Rosemary Rubalcava
Marisela Ruelas

Christina Rummel
Heather Ruse
David Russell
Shannon Russum

Craig Rutkowski
Matthew Rzepka
George Sabo
Jonathan Salyer



April Samuels
Michael Sanchez
Jennifer Sandage
Edwin Santiago
Ryan Satka
Julie Scanlan
Jason Scarbrough
Thomas Scharpf

Corey Schnarr
Sheldon Schwalm
Adam Scott
Tara Seeba
April Selvage
Nicole Shaw
Joshua Shear
Anis Sheth

Heather Shoup
Roxanne Shukitis
Timothy Shuttz
Kathleen Siminski
Nicola Simmons
Shaun Simmons
Cory Sizemore
Joshua Slatton

Alicia Smith
Brandon Smith
Eric Smith
Heather Smith
Max Smith
Philip Smith
Shaun Smith
Stephanie Smock

Bonnie Snodgrass
Anthony Sobczak
Cheriel Spencer
Stephanie Spenner
Sabrina Stearns
Ules Stidam III
Megan Stout
Scottie Stout

Shannon Strickland
Sharron Strickland
Timothy Sudlow
Stephanie Suffern
Michael Sullivan
Ryan Sweeny
Charles Switzer
Jennifer Szabo





Michael Szarmach
Michael Szostek
Ryan Taiclet
Joseph Tanner
Marc Tarpley
Kristy Taylor
Kristy Tellez
Eugene Teso

Steven Thompson
Tonya Thornton
Frances Tibbetts
Gwyn Tidwell
Laura Tigue
Joseph Tinnel
David Tomes
Danielle Ton

David Torres
Evana Torres
Emily Trathen
Jonathan Tummond
Rebecca Turley
Brad Twilla
Phillip Tyskiewicz
Sarah Uzelac

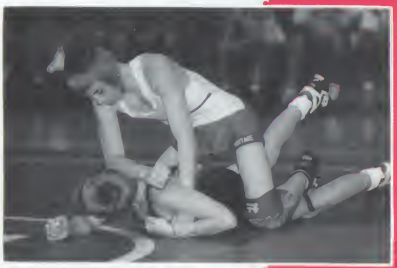
Jennifer Vanderploeg
Kelly Vargus
Joshua Vaudt
Claudia Vega
Michael Vega
Daniel Vernon
Nicole Villarreal
Genanne Voynovich



Nicole Wallker
Douglas Walstra
Daniel Walworth

Laura Ward
Amy Washburn
Machandra Washington

Brian Watson
Eric Watson
Kevan Watson



Freshman Stephan Kinlaw goes for the pin on his opponent. S[illegible]
for the season was 1-0 on the varsity team.



Stephanie Waugh
Jennifer Wayte
Shannon Webb
Maegan Wendt
Misty Whalen
Ted Wheeler
Anthony Whiteside
Nina Wild

Nathan Wilson
Rachel Wilson
Christopher Wilusz
Joseph Winicky
Matthew Winkoff
Elizabeth Wireman
Blake Wiseman
Tiffany Witka



Brandon Wittman
Rhonda Woodke
Jason Woods
Ryan Woods
William Worak
Robert Woynaroski

Chad Wright
Cora Wright
John Wright
Jeremy York
Jason Yuraitis
Amy Zacarias

Eugenia Zaganas
Jeremy Zeha
Michael Zenci
Cathy Zielinski
Jennie Zielinski
Elizabeth Zolkowski



Freshman Irene DeJesus is doused with shaving cream by senior Steve Letic at the Fall Homecoming pep rally. This was an initiating part of being in student council.



Freshmen Juleen Pezel, Sarah McDowell and Erika Radich practice before a game. The Freshman Volleyball team went on with a 13-2 season record.



Freshman David Torres pins his way through a win. The team had a successful record.





Freshman Monica Essig concentrates on finishing her foreign language work. Freshmen took foriegn languages for an elective class.



Freshman Tessie Frechette takes a break from a gymnastic meet. The gymnasts gave way to a 6-2 record ending the season.

Class of...98



Freshmen Daniel Pickart and Stephanie Waugh participate in a line dance at a fall dance. Freshmen took no time at fitting into the high school lifestyle.

Record File

Freshman's First

On August the big day had finally arrived. Freshman entered PHS for the first time.

Arriving at a new school, probably twice the size of middle school, can be scary to some and exciting to others.

Marcy Greer, freshman, said, "Oh my God, this school is humongous."

Moving on to high school can be a big deal to some students because of the size or because grades now count, but to others it's no big deal.

Holly Chinn, freshman, said, "There are a lot more people, and my grades now count, which worries me a little, but not much because I feel I am a good student."

The size of PHS can be very scary if students have never been around it, but as some learned, it soon gets easier.

Alicia said, "I got lost a lot at the beginning, but now I know my way around. It's really not as hard once you get used to it."

Josh Shear, freshman, said, "It did not matter to me because I found my way around well."

After being a big fish in middle school, coming to high school and just being a little fish can be frustrating.

Marcy said, "The upperclassmen boss us around in sports by making us carry everything, and last year we got to make the little sixth graders do that."

In a few years when they are seniors, they will look back upon their freshman year and remember what it was like and do all the same things to the upcoming class.

by: Karen Adams



Anne Addis
Secretarial



Kathy Anderson
Secretarial



Sue Andryuk
Secretarial



Bonnie Albert
Math



Marvin Allison
History



Ken Altizer
JROTC



Jane Arden
Secretarial



Heidi Babcock
Social Studies



Louise Baker
Secretarial



Robert Beigh
Industrial Arts



Mike Bendicsen
Psychology



Patricia Benson
English



Jon Bertram
Science



Eleanor Blakely
Secretarial



William Bodnar
Speech



Sharon Bronson
German



John Broome
Assistant Principal



Richard Brown
Science



Larry Casbon
Athletic Director



Estelle Chaddock
Drug Counselor



Cheryl Clapp
Math



Clara Clark
Math



Jason Cope
English



Sandy Corso
Health



James Doane
Science



James Douglas
Social Studies



Pamela Downard
Guidance



Lynn Duhamell
Media Center

Mr. Andrew Halaschak, attendance officer, discusses some ideas with secretary Kathy Anderson. Secretaries helped staff members, including administrators, in many ways throughout the year.



Mrs. Darla Foreman prepares computer disks to be sold to students at the bookstore. Foreman worked in the bookstore before and after school, as well as during lunch hours.





Diane Dominguez
Special Education



Greg Fisher
Business



Mary Ann Eckert
Secretarial



James Goetz
Math



Penny Gorgei
Secretarial



Lynda Grivetti
Secretarial



Ray Grivetti
Music



Marvin Guernsy
Science



Ike Halaschak
Attendance



Gil Hamilton
Business



Liz Hanlon
LRE



Tom Hardebeck
Indistrical Techl



Mr. Ron Hancock thanks the 1994-1995 Student Council officers for his gift and a great year.

Memorable Staff Achievements

They worked hard, they got things done, and they achieved many goals. They are the faculty and staff members that help hold the rest of the school together.

One faculty member that was awarded for her efforts was Mrs. Patricia Strawbridge, a chemistry teacher. Strawbridge represented the school in Washington, D.C. as the 1994 Presidential Award winner in science. She was one of only 54 science teachers to receive this honor. "I was surprised how much we awardees are alike," Strawbridge remarked. "We believe that all students can and should learn science."

Mrs. Brighitte Snemis, Spanish teacher, also represented her school and community. Snemis was chosen as the 1995 Popcorn Queen in the annual Popcorn Festival in Valparaiso. She said that the experience helped her gain confidence and self-esteem. She hopes to be able to teach others that "if you feel confident about yourself, you can do anything."

Some faculty members had to work hard to keep things running smoothly in a transition year. Assistant Principal Mr. Richard Kirchner took on the responsibility of a higher position on July 1, 1995. He assumed the duties of retiring principal Forrest Rhode. Kirchner commented, "I consider it to be a real honor to be the next principal. I am going to do my best to lead the school at the extraordinary level it has been."

Dr. George McKay also had to make changes as he assumed the position of superintendent of schools. "We have a fine school system, and I have always been happy with my role in education," McKay said. Dr. McKay summed up the basic reason for all of the hard work of faculty and staff members in simply quoting the Mission Statement, stating, "We educate today for tomorrow's success."

... Cheryl "S" Banke ... Mignon Montpetit ... Elizabeth Verbich



Debra Heitmann
Guidance



Sandy Herr
Secretarial



Linda Hicks
Speech



Kathryn Hites
Spanish



Jay Hodges
Math



Stanlee Hodsden
Drama Assistant



Lynne Huerta
Spanish



Scott Hufford
Science



Cathie Jacobs
English



Roberta Jocius
English



Lowell Johnson
Assistant Principal



John Kappes
Industrial Technology



Mark Karmel
Speech



Ella Karris
LRE



Christine Kern
Business



Gary King
English



Richard Kirchner
Assistant Principal



Eva Kjennerud
English

Why do you think Portage High School was named a Blue Ribbon school?

"We offer a wide variety of academic and extracurricular activities to meet students' needs."
✓Michael Lemond

"It's not a matter of why we were named a Blue Ribbon school, it's a matter of why it took so long."
✓Dennis Norman

"I think Portage is one of the best schools. The teachers are good, and they teach to the best of their ability. It is left upon the student whether they want to learn."
✓Kay Matteson

"It's a great school, and we had a great committee who wrote one heck of a proposal."
✓Helen Mundell

"We're a great place. We offer a tremendous amount of opportunities to students."
✓Sue McPherson



Les Klein
Asst. Athletic Director



Gerri Kotyuk
English



Kathy Kotyuk
English



Arlene Kramer
Media Center



Judy Krieger
Life Skills



Annette Kulmatycki
Art



Dorothy Kurtz
English



Jane Larson
Business



Jerry Lasky
Assistant Principal



Linda Lemond
English



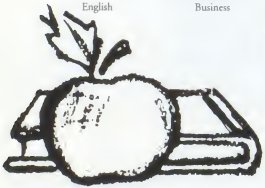
Michael Lemond
Economics



Donna Lenburg
Business



Tom Levandowski
Physical Education





Clara Lilly
Nurse's Aide



Shirley Lindquist
Business



Mike Lipinski
Physical Education



Sara Litwicki
Life Skills



Henry Looft
Science

Mr. and Mrs. Rhode share a dance at Prom. Many staff members volunteered to chaperone dances such as Prom, which was held on May 5.



Jane Lowenstine
Art



Sara Lux
Guidance



Donna MacArthur
Business



Jill Mangold
English



Kris Marsh
Media Center



Barbara Mason
English



Richard Mason
Science



David Masty
French/Chinese



Kay Matteson
Media Center



David Mattix
Physical Education



Robert Mattix
Science



Sue McPherson
French



Tom McPherson
Industrial Technology



Phyllis McVicker
Physical Education



Dan Merrill
Health



Warren Miller
Music



Kim Milner
Special Education



Terry Milner
Health



Jill Milteer
Business



Tom Milteer
Health



Tamara Minks
English



Afrodite Mitrakis
Life Skills



Agripina Monsivais
Spanish



Patrick Moody
English



Sylvia Mora
Spanish



Lisa Moser
Special Education



Pat Moyers
Computer



Bob Mullen
Science





Helen Mundell
English



Ralph Mundt
Government



Arlene Neill
English



Dennis Norman
English



David Ochoa
Guidance



Debbie Ormes
Bookstore



Robert Parker
History



Ruth Parks
Physical Education



Carry Parsons
Special Education



Lori Pavell
Business



Linda Peda
Spanish



Rob Prellwitz
Special Education



Caren Prow
Assistant Principal



Christine Pruitt
Social Studies



Jill Redmon
English



Forrest Rhode
Principal



Sharron Rothe
Life Skills



Millie Ruzbasan
Social Studies



Jim Samuel
Assistant Principal



Bill Schott
Latin



Darryl Schultz
Math



Kathy Schwinger.dorf
Success



Richard Shearer
Art

What is the most unusual thing that has happened in your teaching career?

"I had to spend the night in the school. It was after a sectional speech meet, in the middle of a bad snowstorm. By the time I waited for everyone else to catch their rides home, it was so bad I couldn't see the road, so I let myself in and spent the night in my classroom."
✓ Linda Hicks



June Shiozaki
Physical Education



Kathy Shrader
Math



Raymond Sifrig
Business



Marjorie Slamkowski
Business



Laurie Smock
Math



Brighitte Snemis
Spanish



James Snyder
Guidance



Joseph Sparacino
Math



Mary Sparacino
Math



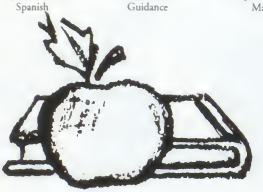
Sheila Stevenson
Guidance



Cynthia Stojic
Art



Annie Strausbaugh
Secretarial





Patricia Strawbridge
Science



Madeline Summers
Guidance



Robert Symer
Music



Larry Tharp
Science

Mr. Mike Bendicsen and his father, a psychologist, smile for the camera. Mr. Bendicsen, psychology teacher, invited his father to share his experience and knowledge with students.



William Timmerman
Music



Charles Tomes
Math



Gail Trobaugh
Special Education



Marty Troglio
Vocational



Pete Turpa
History



Renee Turpa
History



Juanita Viera
Health



Donna White
Math



Paula Wiese
Art



William Wilke
Physical Education



Robert Wilson
Math



Yan Wolfman
Science



Donna Yaksic
Science



Dawn Yovanovich
Media

"I was named principal for the 1995-1996 school year."
✓ Richard Kirchner

"I set up a video camera to catch my students goofing off in class. They didn't believe it was on until later when I showed them the tape."
✓ Richard Brown





Mr. Joe Stevens and graduate Nicole Power share a laugh with the audience at the Outstanding Young Man competition. Mr. Bodnar emceed the event, and Nicole entertained with her singing talent.



Mr. Dan "Doc" Merrill uses a model of the foot during a lecture in his athletic training class. Mr. Merrill taught health as well as athletic training.

In Memory
Martin
Troglio
3-31-32
5-22-95



Huh, Men!!

What Annoys You Most About the Opposite Sex?



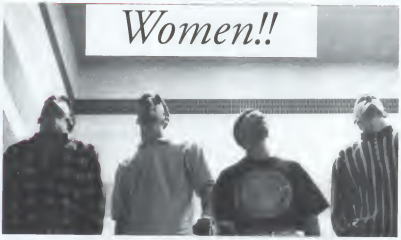
2 SIDES TO EVERY Story

*"It's so annoying when girls ask all of these questions that aren't relevent to anything," **Mike Lee** said with a laugh.*

*Without hesitation, **Mike DeLeon** stated, "Complaining, they're always complaining!"*

*"It drives me crazy. Guys always think they're right. They can never admit to being wrong," said **Jessica Taiclet**.*

What Annoys You Most About the Opposite Sex?



Women!!







Class of . . . 95

David Ortiz thinks he's a stud for winning the Winter Homecoming King; yet Sherri Stamper, with her athletic finesse, shows that she's an even bigger stud by winning the Winter Homecoming Queen in a landslide victory!

Not everything is annoying.

At least, not according to Jason Dudley and Jen Recktenwall as they pose for a "Friends Forever" picture, both in smiles.







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Ready to give a "Hot Eat, Cool Treat", junior Kelly Zapurucha prepares one of the many dessert items at Dairy Queen. The popular cool refreshment place's slogan is "We treat you right!"



The community came together for many important causes.

The businesses purchased ads to support the Legend. They remained dedicated, and if it wasn't for their dedication, there might not have been a yearbook. The businesses and companies stayed loyal to the school throughout the year.

Area businesses also provide a workplace for PHS students. Freshman Erin Daege, who works at McDonald's, said, "I'm glad the students are able to work. We need money too and the places who hire us realize that as well. It may not be the best job, but at least it's a job!"

The corporations in the community helped students out with a variety of scholarships. "Dollars for Scholars', a new' program, has representatives throughout he city trying to establish two scholarship efforts.

Assistant principal Richard Kirchner stated, "We are going to establish a permanent foundation with a permanent amount of money with the interest of the money helping the students. The second effort is getting the corporations and individuals to contribute to scholarships."

Guidance counselor and "Dollars' board director Sara Lux said, "Dollars really asks for the whole community to support it, not just a few isolated businesses.

"I think there is a genuine interest to help kids. The students should express their appreciation. The businesses do not have to do this. I hope the kids do appreciate it. As an administrator, I'm extremely appreciative!" added Kirchner.

The community did their part to contribute to the school, students and yearbook.

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EVERYDAY

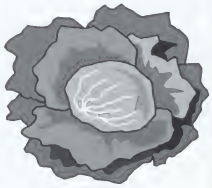
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(Photo By Alicia Balazs)
Lori Spencer is transcribing for MCCI. MCCI is located in a convenient area down the road from Portage High School.

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Dennis Bailey is helping Jennifer Gilmer choose the best product for her car. Bailey's Auto is ready to serve you from "Bumper to Bumper."



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(Photo By Todd Kobitz)
Agent Bernie Nygra is confirming the right insurance for you.



(Photo By Todd Kobitz)
Receptionist Susan Alonzo is looking over one of the many insurance policies.

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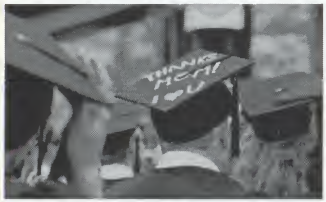
Who says you're coming to anything. Heck, you're already here. And not a minute too soon. You're more concerned

WHAT'S THE YOUNGER

about the earth's environment. About world hunger. About drugs. The economy. And you want change.

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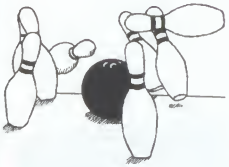
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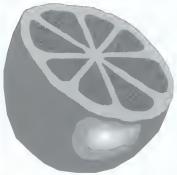
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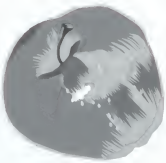
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Ackerman, Carey 176
Ackerman, Cal 46
Adams, Karen 112, 176
Adams, Steve 190
Adamski, Jill 103
Ahlfeld, Michelle 190
Aimutis, Vahona 166
Alaniz, Adam 73, 190
Alaniz, Rose 166
Alaniz, Tony 72, 73
Albert, Bonnie 118, 119
Alderson, Joel 48, 166
Alex, Christopher 190
Alfaro, Jackie 108
Alfaro, Jacqueline 190
Alfaro, Sandra 108, 190
Allison, John 176
Alsop, Christopher 166
Altgilbers, Susan 176
Alvarez, Carlos 190
Anders, Michelle 176
Anderson, Bryan 107, 166
Anderson, Gina 137, 176
Anderson, Marissa 176
Anderson, Matt 39, 185
Anderson, Matthew 176
Andrews, Brian 176
Andryuck, Heather 75
Andryuk, Heather 74, 176
Angle, Cory 176
Angotti, Ray 176
Arden, Shaun 106, 107
Arden, Shawn 103, 106, 107, 166
Arend, Rhonda 166
Armato, Sonny 43, 166
Armenta, Timothy 190
Armes, Elijah 176
Arredondo, Jessica 108, 187
Arwood, Glenn 176
Arwood, Michael 190
Ashby, Richelle 190, 198
Atherton, Matt 73
Atherton, Matthew 176
Attinger, Jason 92, 190
Aubuchon, Shannon 190
Auken, Ryan Van 109
Auskalnis, Joey 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 166
Austin, Brandon 166
Austin, Melissa 176

Babcock, Jerrny 48
Bacon, Robert 166
Badillo, Patricia 190
Bailey, Bobby 190
Bailey, Darrell 190
Bailey, Elizabeth 190
Bailey, Eric 166
Bailey, John 61, 190
Bailey, Scott 166
Bailey, Susan 166
Bailey, Tabitha 176
Baily, Tanya 113
Baker, Brett 166
Baker, Michele 103, 107, 118, 141
Balakir, Natalie 190
Balas, Katty 82, 83
Balazs, Alicia 112, 166
Balboa, Theodore 190
Baldridge, Keri Ann 190
Ball, Tasha 190
Ballas, Kathrine 190
Ballinger_Harris, Rebbecca 190
Ballor, Anthony 176
Ballor, Glenn 48, 49, 72, 73
Ballor, Tony 39, 73
Bangs, Johnny 190
Banke, Cheryl 112, 166
Banke, Chris 112, 176
Banks, Anthony 176
Banks, Betty 108, 190
Banogan, Ryan 39
Barajas, Carlos 166
Barajas, Daniel 190
Barajas, Sandy 190
Barber, Ricky 176
Bardsley, Jason 166
Barich, Tim 176
Barker, Jeremy 54, 55, 166
Barnes, Samantha 107, 166
Barnes, Steve 87
Barnett, Cliff 46, 47
Barniville, Jessica 82, 107, 176
Barszcz, Anthony 176
Barthel, Erik 32, 112
Bartley, Jennifer 166
Bartley, Kristen 190
Barwig, Jason 190
Bates, Natalie 190
Batista, Andrea 166
Batista, Michelle 85, 190
Bauer, Brian 166
Bauer, Emily 64, 69, 190
Bauer, Jen 69
Baugh, Brian 51, 87
Bauknecht, Chris 166
Beach, Chris ... 39, 102, 104, 107
Beach, Christopher 166, 176
Belcher, Katie 107, 112
Bell, Adam 34
Bendicsen, Michael 170
Bendt, William 166
Benke, Steve 108
Benke, Steven 190
Bennell, James 190
Berger, Andrew 176
Berry, John 120
Berry, Randall 166
Bethel, Alisa 190
Bickham, Cynthia 166
Bickham, Theresa 190
Bilderback, Kristy 166
Billick, Bob 54
Billings, John 43, 176
Bingham, Timothy 166
Black, Terry 190
Blackburn, Cheryl 176
Blackburn, Michelle 166
Blackenship, Clifton 176
Blaha, Kaimi 22, 23, 109, 166
Blake, Holly 190
Blanton, Paul 102, 107, 176
Blanton, Shanna 190
Blaszkiewicz, Anthony 176
Bledsoe, Sandra 176
Blinko, Cybil 166
Blouir, Timothy 166
Blystone, Anthony 190
Bogart, Matthew 176
Boggs, Kristy 190
Bogoid, Amber 69, 108, 176
Boksa, Jennifer 176
Bollinger, David 75
Bonds, Tara 190
Bonez, Lori 42
Bonez, Tom 32, 33, 39, 43
Bonez, Tommy 162
Bonner, Christopher 166
Bonner, Kelly 190
Bonner, Ryan 39, 73, 176
Book, Sandra 176
Boomsma, Thomas 190
Boone, Jeffrey 166
Boozer, Ronald 176
Borajas, Dan 61
Bord, Melissa De 192
Boruff, Kristian 190
Boruff, Sonja 176
Bosstel, Robert 176
Bough, Brian 176
Boule, Rob 102
Bovenkerk, Jason 103
Boyd, Jacob 22, 23, 32, 190
Boyd, Josh 22, 23, 32
Boyd, Thomas 190
Boyle, Dollie 85, 176
Bradach, Jodi 42
Bradford, Sarah 107, 176
Bragdon, Isaac 190
Brajcki, Paul 92, 190
Brajcki, Stephen 166
Branham, Aaron 73, 190
Branham, Adam 118
Brannon, Marc 190
Branshaw, Faith 190
Braselton, Joseph 176
Brasseur, James 51, 166
Brennan, Brooke 74, 176
Bretts, Traci Ann 190
Breunig, Johann 166
Brewer, Amanda 190
Breyfogle, Adriane 176
BridgettHarsh 179
Brigham, Michelle 103, 107, 166
Brink, Janel 102, 166
Brockway, Michael 166
Brown, Elizabeth 190
Brown, Karl .. 103, 104, 106, 166
Brown, Keith 190
Brown, Kenneth 176
Brown, Kevin 102, 107, 166
Brown, Lori 108, 176
Brown, Mary 75, 190
Brown, Michele 112, 166
Brown, Richard 207
Brown, Ryan 39
Brubaker, David 166
Bryan, Jason 191
Bryant, James 191
Bryant, Randall 92, 93
Bryniarski, Brian ... 108, 109, 191
Buchanan, Jamie 191
Buckmaster, Michael 191
Buckner, Jeremey 191
Buergle, Carl 78
Buergler, Carl 39, 78, 176
Buergler, Jennifer 64, 65, 166
Bugarin, Michelle 102, 107
Builta, Jacqueline 166
Builta, Toni 176
Bull, Ryan 191
Bullard, Duston 166
Bunker, Dawn 22, 23, 108
Bunker, Elizabeth ... 85, 108, 191
Burton, Becky 108
Burton, Patrick 166
Burton, Rebeca 176
Burton, Ryan 166
Busch, Heather 69
Busch, William 142, 191
Bush, Heather 108, 191
Bush, Jennifer 176
Butala, Lisa 107, 176
Buzea, Craig 38, 39
Byers, Jason 166
Bysong, Jesseme 82, 166
Bysong, Jill 176

Cable, Jaimie 176
Caimens, Jeremy 118
Cain, Breanna 176
Cain, Michelle102, 103, 106, 107
Calvert, Marisa 138
Camacho, Lisa 176
Cambell, Christina 113
Camp, Jeff 39, 92
Camp, Jeffrey 177
Campbell, Catherine 166
Campbell, Heather 177
Campbell, Jamie 166
Campbell, Jeanette 191
Campbell, Jodie 191
Cannon, Crystal 80, 177
Cantonelli, Liz 82
Cantu, Maria 166
Cap, Jennifer 107, 166
Cardenas, Andrea 80, 166
Cardenas, Christopher 191
Carnahan, Rod 139
Carnahan, Rodney 167
Carpenter, Melissa 108
Carr, Justin 191
Carrillo, Brandy 167
Carrillo, Nicholas 191
Carrion, Rosa 191
Carter, Shawna 64, 191
Cash, Lesley 112
Casillas, David 167
Castagna, Trisha 191
Casteel, Jade 177
Castillo, Percy 191
Castillo, Tony 167
Castro, Julie 109, 167
Cates, Erica 167
Catherman, Shellie 191
Catlin, Vance 39
Cattani, Elizabeth . 103, 107, 191
Caudill, Windy102, 106, 107, 108, 167
Cauley, Danielle 191
Cavanaugh, Latisha 167
Cavezza, Jennifer 177
Cerda, Nick 191
Chabes, Jason 177
Chaddock, Estelle 118, 119
Chaddock, Gabriel 103, 104, 107, 177
Chagoya, Nicole 107, 177
Chandler, Bryon 51
Chandler, Cristina 53, 64, 85
Chandler, Paul 72, 73
Chapman, Chris 92, 103, 107, 177
Chapman, Jennifer 191
Chapman, Nicholas 177
Chapman, Ray 191
Charbonneau, Kelly 75, 177
Chase, Daniel 167
Chasko, Lisa 167, 172
Chavas, Melissa 103
Chavez, David 73, 177
Chavez, Ty 177
Chelich, Brian 167
Cheng, Karl 167
Childers, Amanda 103, 112
Childers, Christopher 167
Childers, Jill 108, 177
Childs, Michael 177
Chillemi, Teresa 177
Chinn, Aaron 167
Chinn, Holly 191, 201
Chirila, Brooke 191
Chirila, Jason 104
Chirwood, Chad 191
Chirwoood, Joe 108
Chizmar, Amber 177
Chizmar, Timothy 191
Choisser, Cheryl 177
Christian, Jennifer 107, 191
Christian, Joe 32, 38, 39
Christian, Joseph 167
Christopher 161
Christy, Eric 39, 167
Cichowlaz, Amanda 177
Cichowlaz, Mandy 64, 85
Ciesielski, Heather 107, 177
Cimbaljevich, Anthony 191
Cimbaljevich, Tony 54
Cipich, Kim 85
Cipich, Kimberly 167
Circle, Jessica 167
Circle, Leacia 73, 74, 75, 191
Civlins, Zachariah 167
Clark, Stephanie 64, 177
Claudio, Esteban 177
Claudio, Kathy 167
Clay, Rebecca 191
Cleland, Corrine 69, 177
Clem, Derek 167
Clendaniel, Kelly 167
Clendaniel, Thomas 191
Click, Michelle 167
Clifford, Stacey 167
Clough, Nathanial 177
Clounga, Mauro 167
Clouse, Joshua 177
Clouse, Kelly .. 75, 113, 120, 167
Clouse, Rebecca 191
Cloyd, Jennifer 177
Coapstick, Susan 177

Cobb, George 177
Cochran, Donald 191
Coello, Leslie 107, 191
Coffman, Steven 191
Cohen, Amanda 108, 109, 167
Collins, Benjamin 177
Collins, Lisa 64
Collins, Mary 177
Collins, Stephanie 75, 109, 177
Colorado, Yvette 108, 109, 167
Conder, Steven 191
Condo, Chris 39, 73
Conger, Bryan 108, 109, 142
Connell, Jeffrey 177
Connell, Shane 177
Connelly, Andrea 108, 191
Conner, Brian 191
Conners, Jeremy 51
Conners, Shaun 75
Conners, Will 39
Connors, Sean 39, 113
Connors, William 177
Conrad, Shondra 177
Conrick, John 112, 177
Contreraz, Roy 191
Conway, James 191
Cook, Michael 191
Cook, Rodney 46
Cook, Steve 51, 73, 78, 79
Cook, Steven 177
Cooper, Joshua 167
Cooros, April 191
Copel, Jason 177
Copeland, Jason 103, 106, 107
Coppinger, Josh 39
Coppinger, Joshua 177
Corbett, James 167
Corbett, Lisa 177
Corey, Tracey 191
Corley, Susan 102, 107, 109, 167
Cornejo, Alejandra 177
Corral, Nicole 177
Cory, Schnarr 61
Costello, Martin 167
Cotton, Jennifer 177
Covarrubias, Marco 54, 167
Covelli, Anthony 92, 93
Covington, Rob 103, 106, 107
Cowsert, Melissa 191
Cox, Bob 48
Cox, Eric 167
Cox, Robert 106, 107, 191
Crawford, Amanda 177
Crawford, Daniel 167
Crawford, Kevin 191
Creason, Teri 167
Creech, Anthony 177
Creech, Jason 177
Creech, Kelly 92, 93, 167
Cresap, Heather 107, 191
Crews, Robert 167
Crider, Christie 108, 167
Crider, Richard 167
Crider, Shaun 108, 191
Criswell, Jerry 167
Crizer, Matthew 191
Crockett, Anne 152
Cronch, Melissa 167
Cronch, Michele 177
Cronin, Jason 167
Crook, David 32, 136
Crowder III, Bobbie 167
Crowe, Kelly 112, 167
Crowell, Stephan 167
Crowley, Catherine 167
Crowley, Frank 43, 177
Crownover, Jason 177
Crownover, Kevin 167
Crum, Kate 109
Cruz, Andrew 191
Cruz, Ann Marie 15
Cuellar, Nora 92, 177
Culig, Jim 191
Cullen, Matt 143
Cullin, Matt 43
Cummings, Crystal 107, 191
Cundiff, Jayme 167
Cunningham, Christina 177
Cunningham, Kristen 53
Cunningham, Nedine ... 118, 140
Curiel, Alexander 177
Curran, Scott 32, 39, 167
Cyprian, Jerry 167
Czapla, David 159

Dacre, Erin 92, 191
Daith, Alexander 191
Dailey, Kelly 39
Daily, Rachael 177
Daniel, James 92, 167
Danielewicz, Heather 192
Daniels, Aaron 178
Darnell, Chadwick 192
Darnell, Jennifer 138, 192
Davaney, Martha 192
Davenport, Brian 178
Davey, Suzanne 167
Davich, Marc 178
David, Michael 137
Davis, Casey 178
Davis, Clay 46, 141
Davis, Erica 167
Davis, Joshua 192
Davis-Cohen, Sean ... 92, 93, 167
De Los Santos, Tina 167
Dean, Mark 167
Dean, Richard 192
DeBoe, Kim 107
Deboe, Kimberly 192
Dec, Krisryr 85, 178
Deckard, Jody 48
Dedina, Delores 75
Dedina, Marcus 178
Degener, Brianna 192
DeHaven, Jeremy 39
DeHaven, Jordan 43, 60, 178
DeJesus, Irene ... 15, 73, 192, 200
DeJesus, Izzy 72, 73, 118, 119
DeJesus, Petra 106, 107, 108, 178
DeLeon, Mike 208
Delgado, Nina 178
Delhaye, Rebecca 178
Delph, Michael 192
Demmon, Derek 102, 178
Demmon, Laura 109
Devane, Martha 104
Devries, Kevin 32, 39
Dewar, Edwin 192
DeWitt, James 61, 192
Dexter, Sara 92, 103
De_Los_Santos, Tina 167
Diaz, Carlos 102, 107, 178
Diaz, Julian 178
Dicesare, Brandi 178
Dicken, Connie 69
Dicken, Thomas 192
Dickerson, Dustin 178
Dillard, Tiffany 34
Dills, Charles 192
Dixon, Briana 107
Dixon, Carisa 192
Dobos, Lisa 178
Dodd, Shawn 178
Dolby, Mellisa 178
Dombrowski, Keith 192
Dominick, Amy 69, 178
Dominquez, Louis 92, 192
Dozier, Jessica 192
Drake, Andrew 192
Dranchak, Jen 118
Dranchak, Michael 192
Driver, Ken 92, 93
Driver, Kennith 192
Dudek, Kimberly 71, 102, 178
Dudley, Jason 72, 73, 209
Duffee, Destri 178
Dukes, Stephanie 108
Duncan, Brian 192
Duncan, Katie 178
Dunning, Jennifer 192
Durfee, Cristal 102, 107, 108
Durham, Tina 178
Durk, Joe 112, 113, 118, 121
Duron, Beth 118, 178
Durr, Stacey 102, 178
Dusz, Jason 192

Earl, Robert 178
Easton, Becky 85
Easton, Nicole 192
Easton, Rebecca 178
Ebling, Rose 192
Echterling, Amber 192
Eckhart, Lee 192
Edmonds, Megan 118, 178
Eierman, Jamie 178
Eierman, Jodie 178
Elderkin, Andrew 178
Eliason, Eric 192
Ellerman, Michael 192
Ellerman, Stacey 103
Elliott, Becky 178
Elliott, Kevin 103
Elliott, Steve 103
Elwood, Ken 39
Emmet Jr., John 192
Enocksen, Pat 138
Erdelen, Natasha 192
Erdelen, Tasha 108
Ernandes, Carlo 78, 178
Ernhart, Tonia 64
Ernst, Joseph 192
Erway, Amy 178
Erway, Eric 73, 192
Eshelman, Victoria 192
Espinosa, Elsie 103, 119
Espinosa, Naomi 192
Espinoza, Christopher 92, 178
Essany, Frank 108, 109
Essig, Frank 51, 87
Essig, Monica 108, 192, 201
Evans, Bryan 192
Evans, Dustin 178
Evans, Kelly 192
Eyermann, Joshua 102, 106, 107, 178

Fain, Jeffrey 51, 87, 178, 188
Fain, Lisa 29, 48, 49
Fain, Amanda 112, 141
Falck, Ryan 192
Falkowski, Jason 178
Fallon, Kelly 75
Farley, Jason 192
Faulkner, Shane 178
Fedor, Alicia 178
Fejes, Melissa 192
Fejes, Missy 85
Fekete, Missy .. 42, 43, 63, 80, 81
Felinski, Winter 192
Fenters, Aaron 48, 49, 178
Fessler, Dawn 14, 15, 82, 141
Fessler, Myron 39
Fields, Sara 64, 192
Fields, Shane 178
Fieming, Hollie 108
Finco, Aaron 107, 192
Fingerhoot, Tina 75, 108
Finnerry, Jillian 192
Fisher, Jennifer 192
Fisher, Matt 54, 78, 79, 186
Fisher, Nate 54
Flach, Cheryl 64, 85, 192
Flanagan, Amanda 192
Fleming, Hollie 108, 192
Flick, Kevin 102, 192
Flores, Michael 192
Florez, Betty 178
Floyd, Dana 82
Floyd, Nikki 71, 178
Fluck, Melissa 192
Foley, Mike 50, 51, 87
Fonner, Jennifer 154
Football, Varsity 39
Foreman, Holly 103, 104, 105, 107, 140
Forianos, Emanuel 48
Fornari, Gia 71, 75, 85
Fornari, Natalie .. 53, 64, 85, 192
Forney, Daniel 178
Forney, Michael 178
Forrest, Michael 178
Forystek, Jeromie 192
Foster, Ginny 102
Fox, Jennifer . 103, 104, 106, 107
Frailey, David 178
Francis, Estil 192
Franczek, Joy 103, 106, 107
Frazier, Jason 192
Frechette, Emily 53, 85, 119
Frechette, Philip 39, 178
Frechette, Tessie 53, 71, 85, 192, 201
Freeman, Brian 60, 61, 192
Freville, Christopher 193
Fruehwirth, Charles 178
Fuerst, Jeffrey 178
Furnish, Rich 107

Gabel, Josh 46, 178
Gadsey, Ryan 39, 85
Gaeta, Phil 193
Gaines, Heather 107
Galati, Timothy 51, 87, 178
Gales, Melissa 193
Galindo, Isela 167
Gallardo, Arturo 193
Gamblin, Scott 193
Gapinski, Heather 80, 178
Garus, Daniel 102, 104
Gary, Susan 178
Gasienica, Sarah ... 107, 108, 193
Gass, Damien 193
Gass, Nikki 70, 71
Gatewood, Erin 178
Gatewood, Rebecca 193
Geeting, Elaine 193
George, Angela 179
Gerbick, Scott 179
Geren_Jr., George 193
Gerkin, Meagan .. 75, 84, 85, 179
Germain, Carlos 193
Gesmond, Daniel 193
Giancola, Julie 34, 75, 141
Gibson, Amanda 103, 104
Gibson, Jesse 193
Gibson, Michael 193
Gibson, Theresa 103
Gilbert, Cyris 54, 55
Gilbert, Kristy 193
Gilbert, Mindi 73, 179
Gilbert, Wendy 75
Gillie, Shannon 92, 179
Gilmore, Kristie 179
Girman, Cheryl 42
Gish, Heather 62, 63, 64, 65, 179
Glans, Kari 142
Glorzbach, George 179
Gnat, Mary 179
Godsey, Matt 32
Goffredo, Michael 193
Golarz, Helena 69
Gonalez, Laura 108
Gonzalaz, Jesse 113
Gonzalez, Edwin 179
Gonzalez, Karina 193
Gonzalez, Laura 193
Gonzalez, Lydia 108, 193
Gonzalez, Miquel 92
Gonzalez, Stephanie 108
Goodwin, Anne Marie 108
Gorgei, Kim 80, 179
Gorsich, Rebecca 179
Graham, Brandy 74, 75
Graham, Terry 193
Granzow, Heather 136, 175
Grasham, April 108, 109, 179
Gray, Angel 109
Green, Mary 193
Green, Steven 179
Green, Timothy 179
Greenburg, Janis 179

Greenwell, Jason 193
Greer, Charlie 39, 78, 179
Greer, Marcy 53, 64, 85, 108, 193, 201
Gresham, Ronald 193
Griffey, Homer 193
Griffey, Todd 73
Gronek, Mark 104, 107
Gruber, Jeramy 179
Gruchalski, Mark 54
Grunden, Cynthia 179
Guerra, Gabriella 179
Gulbransen, Aaron 193
Gupta, Kavita 179
Gurevitz, Mike 102
Gutierrez, Angie 193
Gutierrez, Bianca 193
Gutierrez, Jose 179

Hauck, Jamie 108, 179
Hauck, Shanna 179
Hauck, Tony 179
Hall, Diana 179
Hall, Julie 193
Hale, Krystal 193
Hall, Elden 193
Hall, Joe 48
Hall, Nicole 64, 193
Hallenbeck, Jason 43
Hamerski, Ralfie 193
Hamilton, Jamie 80
Hamilton, Jennifer 193
Hammerstein, Kristel ... 108, 193
Hammond, Amber 71, 193
Hammond, Wendy 179
Hampton, Jim 103
Hamstrom, Becky 103, 104
Hamstrom, Susie 103
Hardesty, Tiana 179
Hardin, Amber 64, 193
Harding, Kevin 179
Harkins, Michael 119
Harman, Michelle .. 82, 102, 106, 107, 179, 188
Harper, Nikki 179
Harsh, Bridgett 69
Harsha, Mark 39
Hart, Derek 22, 103, 104
Harty, Richard 193
Harvoth, Daniel 179
Haskell, Kim 102, 107
Hasse, Tami 107
Hasselgren, Kristen 193
Hasty, David 193
Hasty, Melissa 112, 136
Hatala, Cyndi 62, 63, 80, 81, 179
Hatala, Katie 80
Hatfield, Geoff 46, 47
Hatten, Adam 193
Hauswirth, Casey 39, 179
Hazzard, Theresa 69, 179
Heck, Laura 108, 193
Heckman, Mark 78, 193
Heckman, Michael 179
Heck_II, Steven 179
Hedrick, Bryan 179
Hedstrom, Heidi 103, 104
Hefright, Budd 179
Heitmann, Debra 204
Heldt, Christopher 179
Helmecy, Patrick 193
Helmsy, Pat 51
Henderson, Charles 193
Henderson, Michael 193
Hendley, Kimberly ... 53, 64, 193
Hendrickson, Jason 78, 179
Henning, Mark 179
Hennings, Shawna 194
Henrichs, Donna 194
Hensley, Tani 179
Henson, Nat 43
Henson_Gajdik, Tova 194
Hernandez, Fred 194
Hernandez, Jeannette 179
Hernandez, Marisa 194
Hernandez, Pete 39
Herr, Sandy 204
Herring, Jason 179
Hershman, Mike 113
Hess, Shauna 43
Hess, Shawna 42
Hesseltine, Kristi 107, 194
Hicks, Linda 204, 206
Hill, Michael 194
Hilley, Chris 39
Hilley, Kevin 39, 170
Hillier, John 179
Hilzley, Edgar 180, 182
Hilzley, Nichole 170
Hinojosa, Juan 73, 180, 182
Hise, Amanda 107, 108, 194
Hitchcock, Heath 103, 104, 105, 106, 107
Hitchcock, Holleah 102, 107, 194
Hites, Kathryn 204
Hoang, Lang 180, 182
Hodge, Jennifer 64, 194
Hodges, Jay 39, 204
Hodges, Megan 170
Hodges, Michelle 194
Hodgson, Steven 170
Hodsden, Samantha 22, 23, 108, 118, 180, 182, 187
Hodsden, Stanlee 204
Hodsden, Sydney 75, 85, 180, 182, 186
Hoefle, Kimberly 152
Hoffmann, Benjamin 194
Hoffmann, William 170
Hofmann, Danyeall 194
Holland, Michael 194
Holland, Ronald 104, 170
Holliday, Paul 170
Holloway, Joe 194
Holm, Jennifer 152
Holman, James 170
Holman, Jami 170
Holtzman, Jessica 180, 182
Homolla, John 180, 182
Hoover, Jessica 194
Hoover, Jon 103
Hoover, Jonathan 170
Hopkins, Michael 102, 194
Hopp, Sarah 194
Horne, Cari 68, 69, 180, 182
Horzsa, Laszlo 170
Hoskins, Charles 180, 182
Hostetler, Michelle 108, 194
Hostettler, Heather ... 68, 69, 152
Hotchkiss, Jamy 170
Hotchkiss, Nicholas 194
Housler, Tina 180, 182
Huddleston, Leah 107, 194
Hudson, James 180, 182
Hudson, Jill 28, 75, 152
Hudson, Teresa 180, 182
Huerta, Christopher 104, 170
Huerta, Lynne 204
Huffman, Chad 141, 152
Huffman, Natalie 64, 69, 108, 194
Huffman, Stephanie ..64, 69, 78, 108, 194
Hufford, Jessica 170
Hufford, Scott 204
Hufnagl, Nicholas 194
Hunt, Bryan 180, 182
Hunt, Carrie 103, 118, 152
Hunt, Jason 194
Hunt, Jodie 107, 194
Hunt, Joseph 180, 182
Hunter, Jenny 113
Huntsman, Jamie 170
Husted, Meaghan .. 82, 180, 182
Hutchins, JohnMichael .. 54, 194
Hutmacher, Heather 180, 182
Hutmacher, Matthew 170
Hyde, Autum 75, 180, 182
Hyde, Cynthia 152
Hyde, Kenneth 170

Ibrahim, Rashad 39, 180, 182
Ige, Aragorn 194
Igen, David 170
Iges, Jason 32, 152
Imes, Shannon 180, 182
Infante, Manuel 102
Ireland, Elisabeth .. 102, 107, 194
Irvin, Diandra 194
Iwan, Melissa 180, 182
Iwan, Stefanie 82, 83, 194

Jablanski, Kristy 180, 182
Jablowski, Jamie 152
Jackson, Danielle 180, 182
Jackson, Mike .. 51, 92, 112, 180, 182, 198
Jacobs, Cathie 204
Jacobs, James 108, 194
Jacobs, Larry 170
Jacobs, Loretta 108, 180, 182
Jacobs, Shawna 170
Jacobs, Tammy 109, 152
Jacobson, Andrew 194
Jaeger, Steven 194
Jaime, Yvonne 85, 103, 152
Jakob, Kim 82, 170
James, Amy 29, 46, 112, 118, 152
James, Joe 48
James, Joseph 194
Jamieson, Rachel 180, 182
Jaremczuk, Gabrielle 194
Jarrell, Paul 92, 180, 182
Jarvis, Tonia 14, 15, 75, 119, 120, 152
Jaso, Eric 51, 170
Jaso, Michael 39, 118, 152
Javed, Fahad 194
Javed, Rabia 140, 152
Jefimenko, Renata 170
Jenkins, Clifford 180, 182
Jocius, Roberta 204
Johnson, Arlis 118, 152
Johnson, Elizabeth 48, 152
Johnson, Janet 29
Johnson, Jennifer 194
Johnson, Lowell 204
Johnson, Melissa 194
Johnson, Sarah 64, 85, 194
Johnson, Thomas 194
Johnson, Tonya 194
Johnston, Amy 180, 182
Johnston, Daymon . 39, 141, 152
Johnston, Erin 106, 107, 194
Johnston, Heather 103, 107, 108, 109, 170
Johnston, Jennifer 102, 106, 107, 108, 170
Johnston, Krystal 152
Jones, Amy 170
Jones, Anthony 170
Jones, Boyd 170
Jones, Brandi 92, 180, 182
Jones, Carrie 170
Jones, Dustin 73, 170
Jones, Eric 170
Jones, Julie 152
Jones, Mary 180, 182
Jones, Mikeal 73, 194
Jones, Scott 170
Jones, Tiffany 64, 180, 182
Jongsma, Heather 180, 182
Joseph, JR 102, 180, 182
Joseph, Micheal 180, 182
Joseph, Michelle 102
Jubiua, John 141
Juhasz, Jennifer 92, 170
Jurgensen, Casimira 180, 182
Juszczak, Jeremy 152

Kaiser, Jeremy 102, 106, 107, 180, 182
Kalk, Daniel 194
Kalletta, Gregory 170
Kaminski, Daniel 194
Kaminski, Stephen 194
Kaminski, Thomas 152
Kane, Alan . 51, 75, 87, 103, 104, 157
Kane, Richard 152
Kappes, John 87, 204
Karmel, Mark 204
Karner, Jill 70, 71, 75, 152
Karris, Ella 204
Karris, Nick 106, 107
Karsten, Edmon 170
Kary, Shane 137, 194
Kasznak, Kari 103, 152
Kawiecki, Jaime 152
Kawiecki, Jason 180, 182
Kay, Abigail 82, 194
Kay, Justin 113, 152
Keaton, James 194
Keeling, Jaimmie ... 92, 107, 180, 182
Keffer, Robert 180, 182
Kegley, Amanda 180, 182
Kegley, Ryan 87, 170
Kelley, Dustin 194
Kelley, Michael 170
Kelley, Shane 170
Kellogg, Cary 194
Kelly, Jennifer 180, 182
Kelly, Lani 75, 180, 182
Kelly, Megan 69, 152
Kennedy, Trisha 108, 153
Kern, Christine 204
Kerr, Kevin 153
Kester, Megan 103, 170
Kidwell, Detra 194
Kidwell, Helen 170
Kim, Daniel 194
Kinder, Stephen 78, 180, 182
King, Carey 153
King, Crystal 180, 182
King, David .. 106, 107, 180, 182
King, Gary 112, 138, 204
King, Jeffrey 170
Kingery, Jody 113, 153
Kinlaw, Stephen 194
Kirchner, Richard 204, 207
Kirchner, Tiffany 104, 170
Kirczuk, Joanna 170
Kirincic, Christi 180, 182
Kirincic, Lisa 153
Kirk, Margaret 170
Kirkpatrick, Casey 180, 182
Kiser, Tammy 118, 170
Kish, Amy 153
Kish, Andrew 153
Kitchel, Kara 32, 82, 153
Kjennerud, Eva 204
Klakoski, Beth 69, 170
Klassen, Peter 170
Kleckner, Jacob 194
Kleckner, Jeremy 194
Kleckner, Zachary 153
Klein, Les 204
Klimek. Bryce 170
Klinzmann, Brandy 153
Klisiak, Lindsey 180, 182
Kludt, Christopher 170
Klumpe, Anna 170
Klys, Monika 170
Knapp, Bill 39
Knapp, Jeffrey 180, 182
Knapp, Joel 153
Knapp, Kelly 80, 153
Knapp, William 153
Knight, Martin 92, 180, 182
Kniola, Mathew 153
Kniola, Michelle .. 106, 107, 180, 182
Knowles, Eric 109
Kobitz, Todd 48, 170
Koebcke, Chad 194
Koehler, Tracy 170
Koesema, Richie 170
Kolczak, Jason 153
Koons, Jessica 194
Koonz, Jessica 82

Kopec, Timothy 153
Korbar, Ryan 194
Korem, Jeremy 195
Kornacki, David 195
Kornacki, Jamie 64, 195
Kosovich, Christopher . 104, 105, 106, 107, 153
Kostelnik, Christina 112, 180, 182
Kotyuk, Gerri 35, 204
Kotyuk, Kathy 204
Koukol, April 170
Kovats, Joe 38, 39
Kowalczyk, Jennifer 195
Kowalczyk, Tiffany 195
Kozik, Jennifer 195
Kozrowski, Beth 53, 153
Kozrowski, Jill .. 53, 85, 180, 182
Kral, Brian 87, 170
Kramer, Arlene 204
Kreiger, Mike 43
Krejci, Joy 85, 180, 182
Krieger, Judy 204
Kriess, Jason 170
Krok, Shanna 180, 182
Krueger, Michael 170
Ksenak, Brent 195
Kubeck, Patricia 170
Kubeke, Chris 78
Kucsera, Heather 180, 182
Kuehl, John 195
Kujawa, Aaron 195
Kukla, Charles 171
Kulmatycki, Annette 204
Kurczewski, Lindsay 171
Kurtz, Dorothy 204
Kuzma, Jennifer 106, 107, 195

L

Labus, Thomas 106, 107, 180, 182
Lach, Jason 171
Lach, Barbara 69, 153
Lacia, Jill 153
Lacko, Nikolas 195
Lafov, Patrice 180, 182
Laird, Deanna 171
Laird, Nicole 154
Lamb, Cassie 171
Landrum, Kyla 154
Lang, Ryan 39, 73, 180, 182
Lapine, Ginger 108, 195
Larson, Jane 204
Lash, David 154
Lash, James 180, 182
Lasky, Jerry 204
Lauper, Stacy 171
Lavendusky, Theresa 181
Lawrence, Christina 195
Lawrence, Jennifer 69
Laws, Ryan 181
Lay, Jeffrey 154
Lazinski, Brian 171
Learman, Michael 171
Lee, Brianne 181
Lee, Kristen 181
Lee, Mike 118, 154, 208
Lee, Stacy 171
Leeper, Bridget 195
Lehman, Daniel 195
LeHocky, Kimberly 82, 154
Leisch, Shannon 181
Leismer, Jason 171
Lemely, Stacy 112
Lemond, Amanda 171
Lemond, Linda 204
Lemond, Michael 204
Lenburg, Donna 204
Lenburg, James 171
Lennex, Anthony 171
Lennex, Mary 195
Lentner, Theresa 108, 181
Leon, Heather 108, 195
Lerch, Jeannie 154
Lerch, Sarah 181
Lerose, William 154
Lesk, Teri 107
Lesko, Deborah 106, 107, 195
Lesko, Jenny 102, 106, 107
Lesko, Teri ... 102, 106, 107, 171
Lesnick, Lori 171
Letic, Steve ...15, 32, 33, 35, 200
Leudke, Dan 155
Levan, Kristen 68, 69, 195
Levan, Vicki 69
Levan, Victoria 154
Levandowski, Jason 39
Levandowski, Tom 204
Levenda, Jeffrey 171
Levenda., Amy 64
Levenson, Lisa 85, 181
Lewandowski, Dessa 181
Lewandowski, Michael 195
Lewandowski, Timothy 195
Lewis, James 181
Lewis, Jeremy 39, 43, 60, 86, 87, 181
Lewis, Jimmy 185
Lewis, Jonathan 87, 195
Liebe, Jamie 195
Likavec, Robert 112, 181
Lilly, Clara 204
Lilly, Denise 15, 85
Lilly, Michelle 181
Lilly, Missy 85
Lindquist, Shirley 204
Lindsey, Steven 195
Lipinski, Edward 154
Lipinski, Mike 68, 69, 204
Liskowski, Marie 154
Little, Michael 154
Littlefield, Ricky 86, 87, 171
Litwicki, Sara 204
Livengood, Michael 181
Livengood, Robert 195
Livingston, Kelly 171
Livingston, Steve 39
Lloyd, Melissa 108, 195
Lo, Stephanie 154
Loeffler, Vonnie 102, 112, 181
Lomax, Daniel 171
Longmore, Shannon 195
Looft, Henry 204
Loomis, Robert 48, 181
Loomis, Thomas 181
Lopez, Arlene 154
Lopez, Christina 181
Lopez, Jeanna ...29, 75, 109, 154
Lopez, Jon 39
Lopez, Jonathon 171
Lopez, Michael 186
Lorance, Jennifer 171
Loubriel, William 195
Loving, Cristie 80
Loving, Theresa 107, 195
Lovings, Christie 42, 43, 103, 171
Low, Jessica 171
Low, Stacey 195
Lowe, Aaron 181
Lowe, Melissa 92, 195
Lowell, Kimberly 154
Lowenstine, Jane 205
Lucas, Bryan 195
Lucas, Timothy 87, 195
Lugo, Stephen 87, 181
Lugo, Tiana 108, 195
Luick, Michael 195
Lukasik, Robb 181
Lund, Erica 103, 154
Luriel, Alex 87
Lute, Robynne 62, 63, 154
Luttrell, Jacqueline 181
Lux, Sara 205
Lyman, Nicholas 181
Lynch, Patrick 171
Lyon, Michael 171
Lyons, Kirk 195
Lytel, Sherry 195

M

Mac Arthur, Donna 205
MacDonald, Michael 171
MacWhorter, Christopher 171
Maciag, Leticia 195
Mahoney, Sarah 181
Mahoney, Melissa 154
Malarik, Steven 195
Malcom, Jill 108, 142, 154
Maldonado, David 108, 195
Malenky, Justin 195
Maliziola, John 78, 181
Mangold, Jill 35, 113, 205
Manion, Brenda 82, 108, 171
Manion, Krissy 69
Manion, Kristine 195
Mann, Andrew 171
Mann, Daniel 154
Mann, Jason 171
Manna, Jason 171
Manna, Melinda 181
Manske, Anne 154
Manske, Michael 108, 195
Marcinkovich, Abigail 171
Marcinkovich, Hannah 154
Marcotte, Jason 39, 171
Markos, Stephanie 112, 113, 154
Marlin, Alma 22, 32, 33, 108, 109, 154
Marrs, Jeffrey 171
Marsh, Charity 103, 107, 155
Marsh, Joseph 181
Marsh, Kris 205
Martakis, Monique 195
Martin, Christopher 195
Martin, Emily 28, 103, 155
Martin, James 195
Martin, Trisha 171
Martinez, Catherine 195
Martinez, Christine 155
Martinez, Daniel 195
Martinez, Gina 195
Martinez, Jennifer 181
Martinez, Louis 113, 155
Martinez, Matthew 171
Martinez, Michael 48, 195
Martinez, Percio 171
Martinez, Shannon 171
Martus, Amanda 139, 181
Martus, Joseph 195
Marynik, Virginia 113
Mason, Barbara 205
Mason, Eric 46, 118, 171
Mason, Julie 85, 195
Mason, Richard 46, 205
Massey, Larry 142, 195
Masty, David 205
Matlock, Scott 108, 109, 181
Matney, John 155
Matteson, Kay 204, 205
Matthew, Amy 181
Matthew, Paul .. 32, 33, 136, 155
Mattix, Bob 61
Mattix, Dave 39, 205
Mattix, Robert 205
Mauck, Jason 87, 155
Mauck, Jennifer 195
Mavronicles, Christopher 181
Mayernik, Raymond 171
Mayernik, Virginia 108
Mays, Gregory 92, 93, 181
Mazurek, Mary ... 63, 80, 81, 181
McAllister, Kelly 80, 171
McBride, Michael 171
McCall, Lauren 69, 171
McCall, Richard 195
McCall, Stephanie 185
McCammon, Cory 113, 155
McCance, Shaun 102, 106, 107, 171
McCaslin, Joshua 171
McCaw, Stephanie 181
McColly, Marcella 181
McConnell, Shaun 181
McCorkle, Kelly 155
McCormack, Josh 155
McCulloch, Jennifer 171
McCune, Holly 171
McDonald, Scott 43, 51, 181
McDouell, Jamie 39
McDougal, Nicholas 195
McDougal, Rebecca 171
McDowell, Jamie 181
McDowell, Sarah 200
McEwan, Eric 181
McEwan, Sarah 39, 112, 155
McFarland, Matthew 171
McGill, Kelly 75
McGuffey, Ryan 39, 181
McGuire, Ryan 171
McHargue, Jodie 171
McIntire, Monica 155
McKay, Lisa 155
McKay, Rob 87, 171
McKee, Carmen 171
McKee, Jeff 87, 195
McKee, Rick 181
McKiddy, Amity 75, 108, 181
McKiddy, Donovan . 86, 87, 109, 143, 155
McKinney, Bobby 39
McKinney, Mark 171
McKinney, Robert 181
McLean, Brandy 106, 107
McLean, Michele 171
McLean, Nicole 171
McMaster, Bryan 181
McPherson, Sue 204, 205
McPherson, Tom 205
McVicker, Phyllis 205
McWhirter, Angela 63, 172
McWhirter, Angie 80, 81
McWilliams, Brian 181
McWilliams, Kelly 196
Mead, Keely 196
Mead, Kirstin 103, 172
Meade, David 171
Medina, Delora 155
Medlin, Darin 196
Meeks, Sherry 172
Meeks, Steven 172
Meier, Jessica 108, 109, 155
Melcher, Tracy 137, 172
Melton, Courtnie 181
Melton, Jeremy 196
Melvin, Courtney 102, 172
Mendey, Reuben 108
Mendez, Aragon 196
Mendez, Omar 78
Mendez, Ruben 172
Mendizabal, Tiffany 172
Menendez, Christy 53, 155
Menendez, Yvette 53, 85
Mercado, Omar 54
Merrill, Dan 39, 205, 207
Merritt, Cathy 73
Messinger, Mark 181
Metaxakis, John 196
Metaxakis, Katherine 155
Meyer, Christopher 155
Meyer, Rose 196
Meyer, Ross 196
Meyer, Shannon 196
Meza, Jaclyn 196
Michael, Amy 156
Mick, Bill 139, 142
Mick, Laura 181
Mick, William 172
Mietzner, Alan 181
Mihalik, Marc 196
Mikaloff, Kevin 181
Milakovic, Tom 48
Miles, Corey 106, 196
Miles, Rebecca 172
Miller, Brandon 75, 109
Miller, Chadwick 196
Miller, Cindy 107
Miller, Craig 172
Miller, Cynthia 156
Miller, Dawn 64, 65
Miller, Heather 196
Miller, Tiffany 172
Miller, Warren 108, 205
Mills, Sandra 156
Milner, Kim 205
Milner, Terry 39, 205
Milteer, Jill 205
Milteer, Tom 205

Minick, Brian 156
Miniel, Melissa 102, 107, 196
Minks, Tamara 205
Minton, Jessica 39
Minton, Samantha 39
Miotke, Mandy 29, 85, 156
Mirich, Stephen 196
Mirr, Elizabeth 196
Misner, Scott 39
Mitchell, Carrie 103, 104, 156
Mitchell, Cory 172
Mitchell, David 138
Mitchell, Sarah 29, 75, 156
Mitchell, Thomas 156
Mitrakis, Afrodite 205
Moehl, Scott 102, 104, 107, 143, 188
Monacy, Jason 172
Mongoven, Matthew 156
Mongoven, Melissa 82
Monhaut, Jaime 172
Monhaut, Jason 196
Monpetit, Mignon 112
Monsivais, Agripina 205
Moody, Patrick 205
Mooer, Brandy 156
Moore, Daniel 196
Mora, Sylvia 205
Morales, Marco 156
Morales, Robert 156
Morgan, Richard 49, 172
Morgan, Rick 48
Morris, David 172
Morris, Nick 50, 51, 87, 172
Morrisroe, Lisa 48, 196
Morrow, Larry 156
Moseley, Christopher 156
Moseley, Kimberly 172
Moser, Lisa 205
Mote, James 172
Movre, Matthew 172
Mowbray, Brandon 54, 61, 196
Moyers, Pat 205
Mrak, Joe 39, 73
Mrak, Kimberly 172
Muir, Charles 196
Muir, Robert 172
Mullen, Bob 205
Mullin, Cheryl 106, 107
Mulvihill, Carrie 172
Mulvihill, Timothy 87, 196
Mundell, Helen 204, 205
Mundell, Jessica 74, 75, 172
Mundt, Ralph 205
Muniz, Patricia 82, 106, 107, 196
Munoz, Aaron 156
Munoz, Annette 82, 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 172
Munoz, Nicholas 172
Munoz, Nick 87
Murphy, Mark 196
Murphy, Sarah 82, 172
Murray, Jill 82, 83, 102
Murray, Michael 156
Murray, Zack 73
Murrow, Erika 63, 82, 83, 172
Muth, Regina 92, 196
Myers, Michael 196

Nagy, Karl 156
Nagy, Richard 156
Nagy, Julius 156
Napier, James 196
Napier, Jim 48
Natalie, Sarah 92, 102, 188
Necco, Ronald 196
Needs, Penny 108
Neeley, Wendy 172
Negron, Liz 48
Neill, Arlene 205
Nelson, Bridgette 172
Nelson, Bryon 172
Nelson, Christopher 196
Nelson, David 156, 172
Nelson, Marc 196
Nelson, Megan 108, 109, 196
Nelson, Timothy 196
Nerwon, David 143
Newberry, Darcie ... 82, 118, 156
Newbold, Marshall . 54, 191, 196
Newcomb, Stacey 172
Newhall, Jeremiah 22, 196
Newhall, Sarah . 34, 85, 109, 156
Newman, Aaron 172
Newman, Ricky 172
Newton, David 87, 156
Newton, Patrick 196
Neyhart, Jaime 172
Nichols, Michael 156
Nicholson, Lesley 172
Nikonchuk, Victoria 28, 156
Nikos, Joseph 172
Niloff, Jason 196
Noll, Sarah 196
Norman, Dennis ... 139, 204, 205
Norman, Jeremy 156
Nurse, Julie 172
Nurse, Ralph 143, 156
Nusbaum, Kimberly 156
Nush, Tim 112

O'Neal, Jeremy 54
O'Neal, Timothy 172
Oakes, Robert 106, 107, 196
Oatsvall, Misty 48
Obayle, Sherry 172
Obradovic, Radmila 156
Ochoa, Christine 172
Ochoa, David 206
Odisho, Dennis 54
Odisho, Mike 54, 196
Olivencia, Michelle 29, 156
Oliver, Melissa 191, 196
Olmo, EZ 78
Opolski, Margaret 106, 107, 112
Orange, Thomas 172
Ormes, Debbie 206
Orr, Annette . 103, 106, 107, 157
Ortiz, David 14, 15, 39, 209
Ortiz, Gena 75, 172
Ortiz, Jason 196
Ortiz, John 172
Ortman, Samantha 172
Oslizlo, Dennis 93, 157
Oslizlo, Terrence 92, 172
Ostertag, Kathryn 69, 85, 172
Ostertag, Richard 196
Ostrander, Kathryn 48, 196
Overbey, Scott 172
Overbey, Tommy 172
Owen, Laura 82, 196
Owens, Heather 172
Owens, Jonathon 196
Owens, William 172
Ozbolt, Robert 172
Ozug, Joseph 172
Ozug, Nathan 190, 196

Pacheco, Melyanda 196
Pagan, Yvonne 108, 172
Page, Susie 108
Palachuk, Casey 73, 118, 157
Palm, Kristina 196
Palmateer, Amanda 53
Palmer, Crystal 172
Paniaguas, Daniel 172
Pappas, Dawn 196
Parduhn, Loretta 172
Parker, Jeremiah 173
Parker, Robert 206
Parker, Ryan 92
Parks, Ruth 206
Parnell, William 107, 196
Parsley, Erica 108, 173
Parsley, Nicole 196
Parsons, Carry 206
Passaloukos, Erica 196
Pastoriza, Victoria 157
Patel, Nikil 173
Patell, Jim 39
Patrick, Erin 196
Pauley, Doug 157
Pauwels, Anthony 157
Pavell, Lori 206
Pawlick, Scott 173
Paxson, Toni 108, 173
Payne, Kevin 142, 196
Payne, Paul 173
Peda, Linda 206
Peda, Raymond 196
Pedone, Carl 173
Pedone, Patience 196
Pedroza, Alicia 196
Peek, Janelle 102, 107, 108
Peele, Roger ... 14, 15, 38, 39, 72, 73, 113, 157
Pelke, Rebecca 85, 173
Pelot, Stephanie 113, 157
Pendowski, Ed 72, 73
Penix, Brandon 102
Penland, Jodi 173
Perez, Adrian 173
Perez, Adriana 92, 173
Perez, Doris 92, 173
Perez, Jayme 29, 141
Perez, Marlen 157
Perez, Ruben 87, 173
Perkins, Michele 196
Perrine, Trena 113
Persuhn, Racheal 157
Peters, Cindy 157
Petretta, Amanda 173
Pezel, Juleen ... 64, 108, 197, 200
Piatek, Karen 108, 173
Pickart, Danielle .. 102, 106, 107, 108, 197, 201
Picker, Kristen 157
Pickering, Mike 43
Pickett, Nathan 32, 33, 173
Pickford, Eric 173
Piddington, Dan 157
Piehl, Yvonne 197
Pieper, Kim 29
Pierce, Amy 173
Pierce, Michael 173
Pio, Chad 43
Pirowski, Tim 78
Pittman, Aikea 197
Pittman, Ian 39, 72, 73, 173
Planton, Julie 113
Planty, Holly De 178
Platt, David 157
Plunkett, Julia 142, 173
Poe, James 157
Poe, Kellie .. 29, 48, 49, 141, 157
Polarek, Charles 157
Pollard, Jennifer 173
Pollock, Shana ... 42, 43, 80, 173
Pomales, Abraham .. 92, 172, 173
Popple, Melissa 173
Porter, Stacy 82, 197
Posavac, Terry 173
Powe, Nicole 207
Praschak, Kristy 157
Prellwitz, Rob 206
Press, Bradley 197
Press, Ryan 173
Price, Heather 48, 49, 157
Pridmore, Tkayline 197
Priest, Jill 108, 173
Prigge, Carol 23, 108, 173
Provins, Jessica 75, 158
Provins, Toby 54, 102, 197
Prow, Caren 206
Pruitt, Christine 206
Pryle, Dale 173
Psihogios, Chris 173
Pugh, Carla 197
Pulido, Ricardo 197
Pullen, Clinton 158
Pullen, Tiffany 197
Pulsoni, Dione 173
Pulsoni, Todd 197
Putman, Jeremy 39, 173
Putman, Thea 197

Rauch, Tony 60, 61, 197
Rauhe, Erica 64, 85, 197
Rauhe, Nicholaus 186
Rauhe, William 87, 197
Rauhe, Michael 87, 141, 158
Ramian, Amy 158
Ramian, Christy . 42, 62, 63, 173
Ramian, Julie 173
Ramian, Kelley 64, 197
Ramos, Micheal 197
Ramsay, Talia 141, 158
Rattray, Jacquelyn 82, 92, 197
Rattray, Sandra 158
Ray, John 92, 107, 197
Ray, Matthew 173
Ray, Michael 108, 197
Ray, Robert 173
Razus, Michael 158
Rea, Kathy 82, 138, 197
Reagor, Ryan 32, 158
Reber, Ryan 102, 173
Recktenwall, Ed 54
Recktenwall, Jennifer 14, 15, 141, 158, 209
Redmond, Jill 139, 206
Reed, Robert 173
Reedy, Kimberly 197
Reibly, Edward 158
Reibly, Rebecca 48, 197
Reibly, Steven 102
Reid, Jessica 75, 108
Reid, Sabrina 158
Reiley, Melissa 108, 197
Remm, Peter 197
Renner, Steven 102, 107, 173
Repay, Jacklyn 71
Replin, Kristopher 197
Revoir, Michelle 53
Reynolds, Aaron 55, 229
Reynolds, David 43, 173
Reynolds, Eric 61, 87, 197
Reynolds, Joseph 158
Reynolds, Korey 53, 62, 63, 64, 65
Reynolds, Sabrina 139, 197
Rhame, Aaron . 54, 140, 141, 158
Rhode, Forrest 29, 204, 206
Rhode, Marlene 204
Rhodes, Kevin 173
Rich, Kelly 53, 64, 197
Richards, Bob 39
Richardson, Candice 173
Richart, Cassandra 70, 71, 103
Richart, Trisha 81, 197
Richeson, Cassie 158
Richier, Ruby 197
Richmond, Jason 197
Rickard, Lindsay 197
Riley, Amber 71, 75, 187
Riley, Cassie 71
Riley, Michael 197
Rio, Michael 197
Rios, III, Delfin 173
Ristau, Dustin 39, 197
Ritchie, Vincent 173
Ritter, Ryan 158
Rivera, Aaron 119, 197
Rivera, Amy 107, 197
Rivera, David 173
Rivera, Michelle 15, 29, 158
Rivera, Nancy 173
Rizi, Jennifer 197
Robbins, Nicole 173
Roberts, Holly 197
Roberts, Stacy 197
Robertson, Kimberly 158
Rockwell, Angela 158
Rodgers, Christopher 197
Rodich, David 54
Rodriguez, Abraham 197
Rodriguez, Alfredo 173

Rodriguez, Danette 173
Rodriguez, Edward 54, 197
Rodriguez, Freddie 139
Rodriguez, Ramonita 158
Rodriguiez, Freddie 54
Rogala, Marcus 173
Rogers, Brian 158
Rogers, Dana 68, 69
Rogers, Heath 173
Rogers, Michael ... 103, 104, 158
Rollins, Jesse 197
Roman, Chris 73
Romero, Theresa 197
Ronco, Christina 174
Ronk, Christina 174
Rootkie, Brandie 68, 69, 174
Rose, Shannon 102, 174
Rosenquist, Theodore 174
Ross, Tamara 158
Rossman, Robert 92
Rossman, Teresa 158, 208
Rothe, Sharron 206
Rounds, Tiffany 108
Rouse, Gerri 198
Rousseau, Krysta 174
Rowe, Kristopher 184
Rowe, Tandye 107, 174
Rowl, Christopher 174
Rowland, Chris 103
Royce, Adam 198
Royce, Marc 184
Rubalcava, Rosemary 198
Rubens, Marc 159
Ruch, Tina 108, 159
Ruelas, David 159
Ruelas, Francisco 174
Ruelas, Marisela 198
Rummel, Christina 198
Ruse, Heather 108, 198
Russ, Alice 92, 184
Russ, April 92, 93, 174
Russell, David 198
Russell, Jennifer 184
Russell Jr., James 184
Russum, Shannon 92, 198
Russum, Shawn 92, 174
Rutkowski, Craig 198
Ruzbasan, Millie 206
Rzepka, Jill 174
Rzepka, Matthew 198

Sabin, Bethany 184
Sabjach, Anthony 87
Sa... George 198
Sako, Jennifer 174
Sale..., Jessica 159
Salyer, Jonathan 78, 198
Salyer, Laura 174
Salyer, Nicole 184
Sams, John 174
Samuel, Douglas 39, 43, 184
Samuel, Jim 206
Samuels, April 53, 71, 84, 85, 198
Samuels, Ryan 174
Sanchez, Michael 198
Sanchez, Mike 48
Sanchez, Patrick 54, 184
Sandage, Jennifer 107, 198
Sanders, Alynne 22, 108, 159
Sandor, Stephanie 103, 184
Sandoval, Dustin 159
Sandrey, Toni 159
Sanidas, Tom 61
Santana, Irvin 118, 119, 174
Santiago, Edwin 198
Santiago, Noel 184
Santonelli, Kristina 108, 109, 174
Santos, Stephanie . 104, 105, 106, 139, 184
Sarich, Lise 184
Sarnowski, Geraldine 184
Sasser, Ernie 184
Sasser, Vern 78
Satka, Ryan 198
Sawochka, Justin . 50, 51, 87, 184
Sawyer, Kevin 174
Sayer, Jason 184
Scanlan, Julie 198
Scarbrough, Jason 198
Scegiel, Jennifer 102, 107, 174
Schaefer, Katrina 14, 15, 75, 159
Scharpf, Thomas 198
Scheeringa, Kimberley 184
Scheeringa, Tara 159
Scheier, Stephen 78, 184
Scheier, Steve 79
Scheller, Krista 184
Scheller, Kurt 103, 104, 159
Scherff, Jaime 174
Scherff, Kristopher 39, 184
Scheriff, Chris 73
Schiller, Jonathan 159
Schmal, Traci 174
Schmidt, John 174
Schnarr, Corey 198
Schnarr, Cory 51, 61
Schnelle, Carrie ... 102, 106, 107, 108, 174
Scholz, Julie 108, 174
Schott, Bill 206
Schultz, Danny 159
Schultz, Darryl 206
Schultz, Stephanie 184
Schumacher, Corey 184
Schwalm, Sheldon 198
Schwingendorf, Kathy 206
Sciegal, Jenny 85
Scott, Adam 48, 198
Scott, Craig 184
Scott, Sean 174
Scribner, Amy 109, 174
Sedan, Maegan 159
Seeba, Tara 198
Sefcik, Lauren 184
Selby, Carol 184
Selvage, April 198
Serrano, Eric 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 174
Serynek, Jennifer 184
Shadley, Michelle 184
Shasteen, Eric 174
Shasteen, Nicole 186
Shaw, Christina 159
Shaw, Kevin 159
Shaw, Nicole 198
Shaw, Pete 78
Shaw, Peter 184
Shaw, Tina 80
Shear, Joshua 198
Shearer, Josh 51
Shearer, Richard 206
Shebesh, Courtney 184
Shelton, Julia 109
Sheth, Anis 61, 198
Shields, Nikolas 184
Shiozaki, June 206
Shirley, Daniel 87, 159
Shively, Ronald 174
Shorter, Talea 184
Shoup, Heather 198
Shoup, Kelly 184
Shrader, Kathy 206
Shukitis, Roxanne 198
Shultz, Mandy 92, 93
Shultz, Melanie 174
Shuttz, Timothy 198
Sibley, MeLisa 159
Siegel, Lana 108, 174
Sifrig, Raymond 206
Silverthorn, Amy 14, 15, 29, 159
Siminski, Jennifer 174
Siminski, Kathleen 69, 198
Simmons, Carina 64, 184
Simmons, Courtney 85, 184
Simmons, Joshua 174
Simmons, Nicola 198
Simmons, Shaun 138, 198
Simola, Russ 104
Simola, Russell 159
Simpson, Jason 184
Sims, Joshua 184
Singleton, Anthony 174
Singleton, Elizabeth 184
Sipich, Carrie 174
Sipich, Jami 184
Siroky, Amanda 69, 108, 184
Sisco, Nathon 184
Sisk, Daniel 174
Sizemore, Cory 198
Skafish, Bradley 159
Skolak, Dave 86
Skolak, David 87, 159
Skolak, Jason 87, 174
Skolak, Susan 184
Slamkowski, Marjorie 206
Slamkowski, Timothy 174
Slatton, Elizabeth 73, 118, 174
Slatton, Joshua 14, 160, 198
Slease, Christy 174
Sloan, Sarah 184
Smedley, Thomas 184
Smith, Alicia ... 74, 108, 174, 198
Smith, Brandon 198
Smith, Christine 160
Smith, Curtis 103, 104, 107, 174
Smith, Daniel 184
Smith, Derinda 82, 83, 112, 113, 118, 184
Smith, Eric 198
Smith, Galen 160
Smith, Gregory 160
Smith, Heather 174, 198
Smith, Jaclyn 174
Smith, James 174
Smith, Jeff 39, 78
Smith, Jim 112
Smith, Justin 39, 46, 47, 75, 143, 160
Smith, Kelly 160
Smith, Kenneth 160
Smith, Kristeen 174
Smith, Mark 38
Smith, Max 198
Smith, Nicole 184
Smith, Philip 198
Smith, Shannon 160
Smith, Shaun 198
Smith, Steven 184
Smock, Laurie 206
Smock, Stephanie 198
Smolnicky, Stacey 174
Snellgrove, Curtis 112, 184
Snemis, Brighitte 206
Snodgrass, Bonnie 198
Snow, Daniel 160
Snyder, James 206
Sobczak, Anthony 198
Sosa, Natalie 174
Soto, Michele 174
Soto, Sonia 69, 102
Sparacino, Joseph 206
Sparacino, Mary 206
Sparks, Michelle 70, 71, 75, 109, 184
Spears, Jake 174
Spence, Lisa 174
Spence, Melissa 184
Spencer, Cheriel 198
Spenner, Stephanie 198
Spicer, Carisa 184
Spoa, Kim 82, 83, 108
Spoa, Kimberly 184
Sprague, Leslie 174
Sprout, Maureen 112
Spurrier, Chris 39, 72, 73
Spurrier, Christopher 174
Spurrier, Vanessa 174
Sringer, Leonard 160
St. Germain, Brett 39
St._Julien, Jennifer 184, 188
Stafford, Jenene 84, 85, 118, 174
Stafford, Thomas 174
Stalbaum, Sheila 174
Stamper, Sherri 73, 85, 158, 160, 209
Standish, Jennifer 184
Staninger III, Charles 184
Stanko, Louis 104, 174
Stanley, Carrie 174
Stanley, Christin 160
Stanley, Eric 184
Stano, Dawn 174
Stanton, Michele 174
Starr, Crystal 174
Starr, Robert 184
Startup, Rebecca 32, 109, 160
Statum, Buddy 174
Stauffer, Kari 174
Stearns, Sabrina 198
Steege, Michael 174
Steele, Sean 184
Stegner, Michelle 174
Stevens, Joe 207
Stevens., Joe ..... 2...
Stevenson, Brian 184
Stevenson, Kristin 184
Stevenson, Sheila 206
Stidam III, Ules 198
Stojic, Cynthia 206
Stoker, Vanessa 103
Stokes, Christina ... 106, 107, 174
Stone, Kyle 104, 185
Stout, Megan 198
Stout, Nicole 160
Stout, Scottie 198
Stout, Shellie 174
Strain, Amanda 185
Strausbaugh, Annie 206
Strawbridge, Patricia 206
Streight, Melissa 160
Strickland, Shannon 198
Strickland, Sharron 108, 198
Strom, Robert 185
Strom, Todd 54, 55
Strominski, Aja 185
Strong, Sabrina 108, 174
Strupeck, Benjamin 185
Sturgeon, Jason 174
Sturges, Sonja 48, 185
Stutler, Shawn .. 22, 23, 136, 174
Sudduth, Michele 160
Sudlow, Timothy 198
Suffern, Stephanie 198
Sulcer, Rhonda 109, 175
Sulitz, Melissa 185
Sullivan, Dan 136
Sullivan, Linda 160
Sullivan, Michael 198
Sullivan, Susan 185
Sullivan Jr., Joseph 185
Sultzer, Dave 92
Sultzer, David 185
Summers, Laura 160
Summers, Madeline 206
Suprenant, Gene 28, 43, 175
Sutherland, Tosha 160
Sutton, Lisa 175
Svanther, Wayne 160
Svantner, Nissa 185
Swab, Bridgette 175
Swanson, Christopher 160
Swanson, Michelle 160
Sweeney, Sean 160
Sweeny, Ryan 198
Swerdon, William 48, 175
Swindle, Tricia 29, 161
Switzer, Charles 198
Sworden, Scott 184, 185
Symer, Robert 104, 206
Szabo, George 105
Szabo, Jennifer 84, 85, 198
Szabo, Melissa 161
Szarmach, Michael 199
Szmutko, Nicole 29, 118, 119
Szmutko, Stephanie 175
Szostek, Michael 199
Szotisk, Pat 78

Taicher, Jessica 34, 161, 208
Taichl, Ryan 199
Takaki, Eri 175
Tamura, Joseph 199
Tarpinian, Paul 161
Tarin, Richard 175
Tarne, Fawn 185
Tarpley, Marc 60, 61, 199
Tarry, Alisa 107, 161
Taylor, Brandy 186
Taylor, Cari .. 34, 70, 71, 75, 161
Taylor, Carolyn 175
Taylor, Erik 15, 43, 46, 161
Taylor, Jodi 71
Taylor, Kenneth 175
Taylor, Kristin 107, 161, 199
Taylor, Tom 51, 87, 185
Tellez, Kristy 199
Teso, Eugene 54, 199
Teso, Monica 161
Tharp, Larry 39, 72, 73, 206
Thatcher-Curtis, Travis 103
Thiel, Cortnie 185
Thomas, Brandy 185
Thomas Jr., James 185
Thompson, Aron 175
Thompson, Chad 92, 185
Thompson, Christy 175
Thompson, Michael 161
Thompson, Sherry 161
Thompson, Steven 199
Thorn, Brian 161
Thornton, Tonya 199
Tibbetts, Frances 108, 199
Tidwell, Bryan 161
Tidwell, Christina 175
Tidwell, Gwyn 199
Tigue, Laura 199
Tilford, Jessica 82
Tilford, Michael 175
Tillman, Virginia 103, 161
Timm, Christina 161
Timm, Ken 51, 87
Timmerman, William ... 102, 207
Timmons, Cristina .. 48, 49, 104, 175
Timpe, Tracie 102, 107, 185
Tinne, Joe 139
Tinnel, Joseph 199
Tinnel, Laura 175
Tomes, Charles 207
Tomes, David 199
Ton, Christopher 185
Ton, Danielle 199
Torchia, Christina 102, 175
Torres, Arthur 73
Torres, Chris 54
Torres, David 73, 199, 200
Torres, Evana 108, 199
Torres, Jose 73, 109, 185
Torres, Valentine 175
Torres Jr., David 185
Torrez, Arthur 175
Torrez, Esther 185
Torrez, Valentine 74, 75
Trathen, Emily 199
Trathen, Joey 161
Trembly, Chuck 92
Trinidad, Angelica 161
Trinks, Adam 87, 175
Trobaugh, Gail 207
Troglio, Martin 207
Troglio, Marty 207
Trosper, Machelle 185
Tucker, Dawn 185
Tucker, Tonya 175
Tummond, Jonathan 199
Turley, Rebecca 199
Turner, Chet 103
Turpa, Pete 39, 207
Turpa, Renee 62, 207
Tuthill, Ryan 103, 104
Tutko, Tammy 175
Twilla, Brad 199
Tyskiewicz, Phillip 199

Unland, Damion 185
Urban, Joe 103, 107
Urban, Joseph 161
Urbanik, Rashauna 185
Urchick, Jennifer 185
Urchick, Jenny 82
Uzelac, Sarah 199

Valejo, Marissa 109
Van Angeren, Roxie . 112, 121, 185
Vallejo, Marissa 109, 143, 185
Valyek, Scott 69
Vanderploeg, Jennifer 199
VanVleet, Jackie 69
Van_Santen, Casey 175
Van_Tucker, Ryan 108
Vargas, Phillip 185
Vargas, Vanessa 15, 29, 162
Vargus, Kelly 199
Varner, Louis 175
Vasas, John 175
Vasquez, Adam 32
Vasquez, Jennifer 162
Vasquez, Luis 175
Vasquez, Natalie 82, 175
Vaudt, Amber 162
Vaudt, Josh 78
Vaudt, Joshua 199
Vaughan, Lisa 185
Veden, Todd 162
Vega, Claudia 199
Vega, Diana 162
Vega, Leroy 72, 73, 78, 185
Vega, Michael 199
Vega, Robert 185
Vega, Rosa 108
Vega Jr., Gabriel 185
Velez, Cara 162
Vella, Karen 162
Ventura, Damien 175
Verbich, Elizabeth 112, 113, 185
Vernon, Daniel 199
Vespo, Jayson 162
Vespo, Vanessa 175
Via, Jennifer 162
Via, Jillian 162
Viera, Juanita 207
Viera, Salina 80, 175
Villarreal, Nicole 93, 199
Virden, Melissa 109, 185
Vittetoe, Amber 175
Vleet, Jaqueline Van 175
Vogt, Michelle 185
Voska, Joe 102
Voss, David 175
Vottero, Trisha 185
Voynovich, Genanne 199
Vrska, Joseph 175
Vukovich, Charles 185

Wadle, Sarah 108, 113, 162
Waidle, Gary 175
Walchuk, Robin 175
Walker, Alan 185
Walker, Shawn 175
Walker, Shelley 162
Wall, Michael 185
Wallace, James 175
Walliker, Nicole 199
Walstra, Douglas 92, 199
Walworth, Daniel 61, 199
Walworth, Jennifer 185
Wampler, Terry 51, 175
Warchus, Bryan 185
Ward, Albert 185
Ward, Christopher 185
Ward, Laura 199
Ward, Ronnie 186
Warner, Jacob 186
Warner, Jake 73, 92, 186
Warren, David 87, 175
Washburn, Alan .22, 23, 34, 103, 104, 107, 175
Washburn, Amy 118, 199
Washington, Machandra 199
Wasieleski, Terry 162
Wasilewski, Damon 54, 162
Waters, Heather 186
Waters, Tarah 162
Wathen, Adam 108, 186
Watson, Brian 199
Watson, Dawn 175
Watson, Eric 199
Watson, Jennifer 104, 175
Watson, Kevan102, 104, 107, 199
Waugh, Heather 109, 162
Waugh, Stephanie 107, 199, 201
Wayte, Jennifer 106, 107, 199
Webb, Marty 39
Webb, Shannon 199
Webdell, Troy 106
Weber, Jamie 162
Weber, Julie 186
Webster, Jamie102, 103, 107, 112, 175
Weeks, Laura70, 71, 75, 120, 162
Weinman, Luke 54, 186
Welches, Jeremy 175
Weldon, James 175
Wellman, Nick32, 34, 39, 43, 175
Wells, Eric 186
Wendrickx, Daniel 175
Wendrickx, Robert 175
Wendt, Maegan 102, 199
Werhowatz, Josie .. 113, 140, 162
West, Amanda 162
Westerkamp, Christopher 51, 87, 103, 186
Westerkamp, Heather 118
Whalen, Misty 199
Wheeler, Ted 199
White, Donna 207
Whited, Jamie 162
Whited, Jimmy 175
Whiteman, Renee .. 28, 118, 162
Whiteside, Anthony 199
Whiteside, Bill 163
Whitson, Shawn 175
Whittaker, Tom 32, 112, 136
Whitten, Christopher 175
Whitten, Gregory 175
Whitworth, Amy 186
Wick, Jacob 186
Wiese, Paula 136, 207
Wild, Nina 199
Wilder, Darryl 64
Wildrick, Chad 186
Wildrick, Dawn 175
Wilfong, Sharon 28, 163
Wilke, Mr. Bill 50, 51
Wilke, William 207
Wilkins, Teresa 163
Will, Sean 102, 107
Will, Terry 186
Willey, William 163
Williams, Heather 163
Williams, Jennifer 107
Williams, Keri 175
Williams, Mark103, 106, 107, 175
Williams, Matthew 186
Williams, Nanci 163
Wilson, Barry 32, 186
Wilson, Jennifer32, 103, 109, 163
Wilson, Michael 175
Wilson, Nathan 199
Wilson, Rachel 199
Wilson, Robert 207
Wilson, Stephanie .. 23, 108, 163
Wilson, Tobey 175
Wilusz, Christopher 199
Wineinger, Lisa 175
Wineland, Christopher 175
Wineland, William 163
Wineman, Liz 108
Winicky, Joseph 199
Winicky, Stephen 93, 175
Wininger, Mikki 108
Wininger, Nikke 186
Winkoff, Matthew 199
Wireman, Elizabeth 199
Wiseman, Blake 78, 199
Wiseman, Kari42, 62, 63, 80, 163
Wishmiller, Charles 163
Wishnevski, Jennifer 163
Wishnevski, Shaun43, 78, 79, 186
Wisniewski, Justin 186
Withrow, Carlyle 163
Witka, Tiffany 199
Witt, Bob 112
Witt, Melinda 85, 138, 163
Witt, Robert 186
Wittman, Brandon 200
Wittorp, Tina 163
Wolf, Jennifer 163
Wolfman, Yan 207
Woodard, Crystal 175
Woodke, Donald . 102, 104, 106, 107
Woodke, Rhonda . 107, 108, 200
Woods, Jason 200
Woods, Ryan 200
Woods, Trisha 186
Worak, Roger 33, 163
Worak, William 200
Woynaroski, Robert 200
Wright, Arthur 175
Wright, Chad 92, 200
Wright, Cora 200
Wright, Jessica 163
Wright, John 200
Wright, Phil 39
Wysuph, Adam 186
Wysuph, Jeremy 175
Wysuph, Kurtz 186

Yaksic, Donna 207
Yates, Amanda 186
Yoder, Matt 39
Yoder, Matthew 186
Yonn, Shannon 137, 175
York, Cindy 186
York, Jeremy 200
York, Paul 175
York, Wendy 186
Young, Josh 75
Young, Josy 75
Yovanovich, Dawn 207
Yuraitis, Jason 200

Zacarias, Amy 200
Zagajek, Eugenia 200
Zaun, Zach 119
Zazar, Zachary 186
Zedecek, Jason 175
Zaparucha, Kelly 175
Zeha, Jeremy 200
Zell, Jason 175
Zenci, Michael 200
Zielinski, Cathy 200
Zielinski, Jennie 108, 118, 200
Zielinski, Laura103, 106, 107, 186
Ziemer, Jon 186
Zills, Stephanie 163
Zimmerman, Loycene 175
Zimmerman, Sarah 48
Zolkowski, Angela 186
Zolkowski, Angie 53, 85
Zolkowski, Elizabeth 64, 200
Zurcher, Karin 186
Zurcher, Kristin 186

Looking Back... on Memories!



Junior Christopher Spurrier is disappointed after losing the state football game to Fort Wayne Snider. The boys on the football team worked hard all season long and accomplished a lot together.

Josie Torres, Valentine Torres's father, plays the enthusiastic Indian mascot. Josie attended almost all of the games and supported the Indians with all the pride he could.





Mr. Forrest Rhode shows he can act just like all of us as he dresses up like us at the 1995 Airband Competition.



Members of the 1995 senior class say good-bye to all as they stand by their homecoming float. The seniors spent hours on the float and it was great because they worked together.

The 1994-95 school year has ended but the memories made will last a life time, whether they be personal memories or memories shared by all. For some, this year may have brought, a new friend, a new love, a new hobby or just a new outlook and attitude toward life.

1994-95 will always remain unforgettable in our minds because of all the interesting events that took place. The year is and always will be easily recalled to the minds of the seniors. This is the end of their "long, scary trip" as their senior t-shirts stated. Now they must move on into that big scary world. Hopefully, their high school memories will linger with them for awhile to possibly help them escape for awhile if things tend to get rough.

One of the biggest memories for the senior boys who participated on the football team, will always be their trip to the Dome! Their accomplishments enabled practically all of Portage to have a reason to take a few days off and head to Indy for vacation. Many personal memories were made by individuals in route to the game, not all of which can be mentioned. Although it isn't one of the better PHS memories,

one who had a class at West during 7/8 hour will forget the levels bomb threat. Standing outside in that freezing cold with t-shirts on was almost comical, right?

The senior class of 1995 will never forget and will probably always jokingly remind themselves at reunions to come, that they made "Old Dusty hit the Rhode" as valedictorian Robynne Lute said.



The 'mom squad' is their name and cheering is their game. The mothers of the football players liked to hang out together and were often seen barbecuing before games in the parking lot, or riding on a float in the homecoming parade.

Thanks, Mr. Rhode...
...for the Memories!!!

July 1,1979-June 30, 1995

Seniors Roger Peele and David Ortiz, co-captains of the State Runner-up PHS Football team, display the trophy and pay tribute to the loyal fans. Mr. Forrest Rhode, in his role as chairman of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, was the presenter of the trophy. The next day, in his role as principal, he proudly accepted the trophy from the team on behalf of the school and community.



Principal Forrest Rhode speaks at the 1995 Mid-term graduation. During his many years at PHS, Mr. Rhode was noted for his excellence in mastering ceremonies along with outstanding ear catching speeches.





Mr. Rhode watches as the Indian football team rolls over Hobart. "Dusty" was seen at many football games sporting his team-like cap with his last name on the back.



Mr. Rhode reviews some important papers with assistant principal Ms. Caren Prow. Over his sixteen years at PHS Mr. Rhode was admired by his staff which he taught so much not only about school and administration, but also about the value of life.

For the first time since the fall of 1941, going back to school has been a regular event each late August. In other words for the last 54 years I have been preparing to go back to school. Six years of elementary, two years of Junior High, four years of high school, four years of college, and the last thirty years as a teacher, counselor, assistant principal, and principal. Going to school has occupied most of my life.

The last sixteen years have been particularly exciting because it has been my privilege to be the principal of one of Indiana's finest high schools, PHS on the banks of Highway Six. I look back with outstanding memories of many great moments at PHS. The accomplishments have been many in the area of curricular growth, academic accomplishments, and many exciting moments in our great extra curricular program. All of these magical moments have been through the efforts of thousands of fine students, a great staff, and supportive parents. Hopefully my main contribution has been to help focus on the ever-elusive goal of total excellence. If I have one regret it is that not every student I have been involved with has bought into the value of education and has tried to reach their full potential.

I have however, always stressed the positive side of life and I do feel a great deal of pride and sense of accomplishment about PHS in the last sixteen years. As I begin the rest of my life in the real world, I would challenge all of you that remain at PHS to strive for two basic goals I have tried to impart: whatever your role, do the best you can, and find the joy in what you do. I don't really plan to say good-bye to PHS, it has been too much of a significant part of my life. I will just be around in a different role. And finally to all of you, have a great 1995/96 school year because after all, you deserve it.

Jorrest L. Rhode
Principal, Portage High School



A familiar scene to many is Mr. Rhode working diligently at his desk. Whether it was one of the assistant principals, or a student with a problem, Mr. Rhode would be ready to lend a caring ear and some helpful advice.

Memories Recorded!!



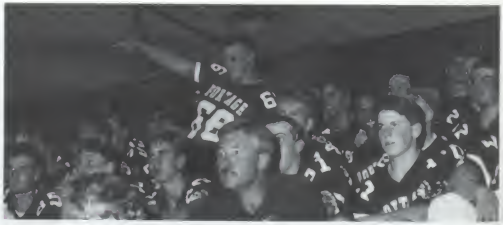
Junior Joe Christian flashes a winning smile as he is announced Homecoming prince. Joe amazed everyone by returning to the football field to play in the Dome, after what was expected to be a sidelining injury.

Senior Tricia Swindle along with juniors Kelly Fallon, Wendy Gilbert and Valentine Torres get excited to march in the Homecoming parade with their Pom Pon Squad. The squad provided a lot of spirit at games.





A special thank you goes out to all the fans who help to support the PHS events like the Homecoming parade where fans lined the streets to cheer.



Junior Jeremy Putman, more commonly known as the crazy yet funny sidekick of senior Casey Pulichuk, dances while the cheerleaders perform. Jeremy's individuality lead to an outbreak of dancing football players.

The closing of the book does not end the record. The record truly exists in the mind of the person having the memory. This book has simply allowed those memories to come into clear focus for a few moments now and will allow them to return years later. As we change and our lives develop, the memories remain constant and our interpretations change.

One of the memories the yearbook staff members will share is completing this book during the summer of 1995. Special thanks go to Joe Dark, Jennifer Buengler and Christina Kostelnick for their dedication to finishing the tasks at hand, with extra-special kudos going to Joe for going well beyond the call of duty and working nearly daily to coordinate and direct the final efforts. Also, Mrs. Debbie Heitmann donated her time and considerable talents to making this book a reality. To those staff members who did not complete their work, this book stands as testament to the power of teamwork.



The seniors of 1995 enjoyed their last high school prom as they dance their last "Electric Slide." Dances, especially prom, were one of the most enjoyed activities of the senior class.

Colophon



The 1995 Legend was produced during one class period, after school, on weekends and carried on into the summer.

With Mr. Mike Hackleman serving as sales representative and Ms. Yvette Freeman as our plant consultant, the 1995 Legend was printed by Jostens in State College, PA.

The book, which contained 248 pages, was produced entirely on the Macintosh computers using the Yeartech program. The 1,200 books were printed on 80 lb. gloss paper. The cover was designed by the help of a Jostens professional artist, Roseann Hoover. A large portion of the body copy was set in 10 pt. AGaramond. Most captions were set in 8 pt. AGaramond while the headlines were mainly 36 pt. except in the sports section. The headlines made in the sports section were developed using the Effects Specialist program, which were in 48 pt. and 72 pt.

As the official school photographer, Prestige Portraits (9441 Aronson Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46240) produced candids, portraits and some group shots. Other sports group pictures were taken by Mr. Dennis Alderson and Mr. Gary King. Some of the girl's basketball pictures were supplied by The Portage Journal Press. Staff photographers, staff members and some beginning journalists developed other pictures in the publication's darkroom.

The book was distributed in the fall of 1995. At registration, the book sold for $18 while in the school year and at distribution it sold for $25.

The 1994 Legend was rated second place with two marks of distinction by the National Scholastic Press Association.

Special thanks to Mr. Gary King for his efforts.

As always, a special thanks to Mrs. Debra Heitmann for all of her assistance. She has been there beyond the call of duty, once again!

And in closing, an extra thank you to Mr. John Broome for coming in at the end and getting us back on track. Thanks again, Mr. Broome!



Waiting to "Record the Memories"...the 1995 Legend Staff

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